

Kenshi o Mezashite Nyūgaku Shitanoni Mahō Tekisei 9999 Nandesukedo!?

I Went to School to be a Swordswoman, But My Magical Aptitude is 9999!?

- Volume 1 -

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- SYNOPSIS -

Laura who had learned special education for a swordsman from her A-Rank adventurer father, enters the Royal Capital's Adventurer's School at 9-years old.

Laura was filled with expectation in her heart thinking \[\text{I hope I have many swordsman friends} \] .

And at the day of the entrance ceremony, Laura's sword aptitude value sprang out at $\lceil 107 \rfloor$.

Between normal students with only \[\sqrt{50-60} \] aptitude value, Laura was definitely a sword genius.

Laura was stunned, while she didn't know what was happening she was transferred to the Magic Department.

I want to enter the Warrior Department desu!

Contrary to Laura's will, she exerts her super-genius, and instantly became stronger than the instructors.









CHAPTER 1

TIME FOR DEPARTURE

"Vanguard is nice you know"

That was Edmonds House's motto.

In fact, Laura's parents were both vanguards at the time they were adventurers.

Father, Bruno is a swordsman.

Mother, Dora is a spearman.

The two paired as a duo, defeated a giant dragon, explore a dungeon, and were discovering new species of organisms.

They were already retired from the frontlines, but they are still getting rid of the monsters that appear near the town, and their skill weren't dulled at all.

"Magic is a skill that a weak person uses. They are cowards that sneak behind us vanguards while fighting"

Bruno's way of thinking was very biased, and if a normal adventurer would hear it he would be outraged.

But, Bruno and Dora really didn't add a magician in their party after all, and did a lot of feat with only vanguards.

The A-Rank Adventurer husband and wife, that is still being talked about.

In front of that brilliant achievements, everyone would only be reticent.

Not that much like Bruno, but Dora has the same way of thinking.

That's why, the two of them were not planning to make their daughter Laura to a magician. They weren't thinking of it at all.

And Laura who grew up being whispered "Vanguard is good you know", also decided to be a swordsman like her father.

Register at an Adventurer's Guild, and live by hunting monsters together with spearmen and axemen.

She believed that without any doubts.

But. Laura has one, a secret that she couldn't tell anybody.

Although she only practiced a little, for some reason she was able to use magic.

She knew that, because of only curiosity.

When she was 3 years old, she took interest in the magic that was written in the picture book, and imagined about it with a light feeling.

Flames, appear---she thought.

As a result a ball of flame really appeared on the palm of her hands.

Laura knew that her Father and Mother despised magic. Magic is something evil.

And that abomination, she used it although it was only as a game.

Laura became frightened, entered her sheets and cried on it.

After that, not using magic at all, she followed her father, Bruno, who was teaching her the sword, and worked hard by practicing earnestly.

Laura herself, liked the sword.

She knew that she was getting better each day.

And the one who rejoiced the most in the talent of the child, was Bruno after all.

But when she became 8 years old, she used magic again.

She saw an injured cat at the yard, and instinctively healed it with Recovery Magic.

Although she knew that she was going to be hated by her parents if they found out, she wasn't able to leave the cat by itself.

And she wonders, why does she have talent on magic.

She didn't knew all about magic, but without practice being able to release a ball of

fire, heal a wound, isn't it strange she thought.

No, that doesn't matter.

I won't use magic anymore.

I will live by the sword.

She hardened her resolution, and Laura became 9 years old.

"Laura. Isn't it time for you to take the exam to the Adventurer's School? The Warrior Department there is good you know. The only drawback was that the Great Sage is the school principal... but other than it's amazing! Normally, the exam is taken around 15 years old, but you are a sword genius. You should pass with a margin. If you already have that level of proficiency, you should go out to the world. You shouldn't be staying in such a countryside"

The parent that sermons to his daughter that "You shouldn't be staying in such a countryside" is the parent, but Laura who heard that nodded obediently also.

I want to become a full-fledged adventurer as soon as possible. I want to fight monsters with my sword.

Father recognized me. Then I will pass the examination for sure.

"I think that it's too early though..."

The mother, Dora, said that, but she didn't deny her daughter's talents.

If the person has the will to do it, then there is no reason to force her to a stop.

It was because, after all, Dora was an adventurer in and out.

And at the winter that Laura had her birthday and became 9 years old. Riding the carriage with her mother and father, she came to the Royal Capital.

There she would take the Adventurer School's exam.

She was a swordsman applicant, so she showed her skill with the sword against the examiner, through a match's form.

The examiner was also a current student.

Originally, having a good fight with him would mean a pass, but Laura won against the examiner.

And her head was also not bad, so she passed the written test with a margin.

"You're amazing Laura. You are really, Otou-san's proud daughter"

"Okaa-san's proud too. Laura is living in a dormitory starting spring huh. It will be lonely if Laura was gone... But it's true that your talents shouldn't be buried because of parent's selfishness. You should do your best"

Being praised by her parents, Laura rejoiced from the bottom of her heart.

I was happy winning against the examiner.

The practice that I've been doing until now was bearing fruit.

I want to be strong as I can.

"Someday, I will become stronger than Otou-san and Okaa-san you know!"

"Ohh, you told it huh!"

"Fufu, I'm looking forward it"



And once, they returned to their hometown, and lived their lives as usual during the winter.

When the snow starts melting, riding a carriage, went again towards the Royal Capital. This time, alone.

If it go smoothly, three years. Laura will learn combat techniques at the Adventurer's School, and the same time with graduation, she will be a C-Rank Adventurer.

But, if someone was lettered as a failure by the school side, they will be expelled mercilessly, and without waiting for graduation they will have to go home.

Of course, Laura wasn't worried about being expelled at all.

I am strong. I have a talent in swords. I'm also doing my best.

While looking at the home town that was becoming small, "I will be the school's number one swordsman", I resolute.

"Also, it would be nice if I make many friends..."

Laura at this time, forgot about, the unlimited talent at magic that she had.

And, that the school's side wouldn't let go of that talent alone, she was not able to realize it.

CHAPTER 2

What do mean by magic aptitude value '9999'?!!

Anybody can become an adventurer.

Even if they're nobles. Even if they're peasants. Even if they have no money. Even if they can't read or write.

There is only one thing needed.

It's the resolve to risk his own life.

Extermination of monsters that harm people.

Exploration of the ruins of an ancient civilization.

Bringing back materials that can be used for alchemy from the harsh nature of the hinterlands.

Every one of those, are important work that will contribute to the human race, and it is an Adventurer Quest that is side-by-side with death.

Adventurers dies.

Especially those who had training with combat arts and magic. Adventurers that rush to earn money, generally die.

The survival rate of a rookie adventurers living after one year is off 70%. There were so much casualties, there was a detailed data available.

Even with that, people that wants to become an adventurer has no end to them.

It was because you can earn money with it.

There is a thrill.

A child's admiration.

And, they will die.

Adventurers are those kind of people, it was thought like that for a long time. But, 50 years ago. There was someone who opposed that.

Within those who are dying, there might be a person full of talents in them. Dying without the chance to extend their talents shouldn't be a good thing. If that's so, I will educate you before you die.

The one who said that is the S-Rank Adventurer, with the second name "Great Sage of Beauty".

After defeating one Majin 130 years before, a legend that still live today. Calrotte Gyrdorea.

She made the King at the time let out funds, gather appropriate talents as instructors, and created the school made to educate adventurers.

That is, Royal Gydorea Adventurer School.

It is the school that Laura will start to go starting today, and her father, Bruno, and her mother, Dora, is a Warrior Department's graduate.

There are two departments at Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School.

Warrior Department and Magic Department.

The former, teaches mainly the sword, spear, axe, bow, and empty-hand combat.

The latter, is magic in general.

And of course, Laura will enroll to the Warrior Department.

"Warrior Department's freshmen, gather here!"

A male instructor's low voice echoed throughout the wide schoolyard.

Laura who didn't know where to go while holding her baggage, let out a sigh of relief. Even if she had a talent in sword, a 9 year old is a 9 year old. In the unfamiliar Royal Capital. In the unfamiliar group action, she couldn't help to get nervous.

"Laura Edmonds. Warrior Department desu!"

"Ohh, you are that Edmonds House's daughter huh. If I'm correct you're 9 years old right. Breaking through the entrance exam in that age, you're talents do not lose to your parents'. But, class will be difficult. Prepare yourself"

"Yes!"

I would like it, if it was hard.

It was because Laura wants to be strong.

Even so, entering school at 9 years old was really unusual it seems.

Even if I look around, I couldn't see a person of the same age.

The entrance exam was taken by everyone at different times so I didn't know, that the youngest were at least 12-13 years old. There are also those who seem that they are near 20 years old.

-Although, once entering, age doesn't matter. Everything is decided by their ability. But if she was going to make friends, those who are the same age are easier to talk to. 'I wonder if I can make friends properly'. Laura started to become anxious.

But I think that it would be okay.

Even if our age is far apart, everyone in here, are aiming to become a first class warrior. I'm sure there would be common topics.

And if we're both a swordsman then we could become best friends, probably.

"The Warrior Department's freshmen, 43 people. It looks like everyone is gathered. Then starting right now, I will measure your talents with this device. Of course, the talent measured by this tool is only a guide, but somehow, it would be a reference for the classes from now on. Well, just relax. It's not like anything would happen using this

right now"

Beside the instructor with a large build, a transparent blue pillar stood.

It's width and length was almost the same with the instructor.

The student that is called by their name, will touch the pillar with their hand.

And then, a light stretches from the pillar, and started drawing letters mid air.

It looks like, it was a device used to put in numbers the aptitude to swords or spears, and various types of magic.

That is probably, a chunk of magic technology.

I wonder if it was made by founder, Calrotte Gyrdorea?

"Next. Anna Arnett"

"Yes"

The one replied and went forward, was a girl who's around 13 years old. Her hair was fiery red.

Probably, she was the closest age to Laura.

Seeing Anna's way of walking, Laura instinctively groaned.

Still young... rather childish, but she has the atmosphere that of a first class warrior.

She knew because she was able to see a real first class, her father and mother, in daily life, it was Laura's intuition.

And the device proved that her intuition was right.

Name: Anna Arnett

Aptitude with the Sword: 98

Aptitude with the Spear: 81

Aptitude with the Axe: 66

Aptitude with the Bow: 70

Aptitude with Close Combat Arts: 83

Seeing the numbers shown in mid air, the instructor let a voice like "Hou~".

"I think that you know it by looking earlier, but even those who passed that difficult exam, their aptitude is around 50-60. But Anna's lowest was the axe, but still it was 66. With the sword, it's 98. Undoubtedly a genius. Although, whatever genius you are, if you started to be conceited it will be your end"

"I won't be conceited... I will grind with full force"

To the instructor, Anna answered with a sharp voice.

Hearing that, Laura shook with excitement.

She's going to be my rival. I have that feeling.

"Well then, Anna's magic aptitude still remains. Even everyone in Warrior's Department, being able to use magic is not a loss. If you have the capacity to learn it then you should learn it"

Aptitude with Attack Magic: 04

Aptitude with Defense Magic: 29

Aptitude with Recovery Magic: 08

Aptitude with Strengthening Magic: 31

Aptitude with Summoning Magic: 06

Aptitude with Special Magic: 10

"Hou. This, it's balance is good. Guarding yourself with Defense Magic. And possible strengthen your physical powers with Strengthening Magic. It looks like Anna is a melee-combat style in and out"

"...I'm relieved that it's the same with my preferences"

Anna who mumbled that, was smiling really happy.

Even though it's Warrior Department aptitude with magic is checked. The instructor was

also recommending magic.

Laura had felt something wrong with that, but she knew that the education she

received from her parents was something to the extreme, so she didn't change her

expression and behaved.

"Yosh. Next is Laura Edmonds. I wonder what numbers will come out. I'm looking

forward to it"

The student's made a strange face at Laura's small appearance, but when they heard

the surname Edmonds, they made a cheer like "Ohh!".

"Edmonds, you mean that Edmonds? Hates magic, and close-combat maniac... and

even though they're like that, they're as strong as an Oni, that husband and wife"

"I have heard that they have a daughter, and if I am correct she should be around that

age. I didn't think that she would enter the same year though..."

"Rather than that, she's not yet 10 years of age right. Is it connection?"

"Stupid. You can't enter the Great Sage's school using connections. It's her ability, A-

bi-li-ty"

The sight of every freshmen at the Warrior Department focused on Laura.

Laura who had not gotten this much attention in her whole life blushes, and went in

front of the device with a trot.

And then---.

Aptitude with the Sword: 107

Aptitude with the Spear: 99

Aptitude with the Axe: 74

Aptitude with the Bow: 68

Aptitude with Close Combat Arts: 75

With Laura's numbers, everyone was stunned.

Even the instructor was dropping his jaw, but soon made an expression with a wry smile.

"Exceeding 100 at the aptitude with the sword... I'm surprised. Maybe this is the first time since the foundation of the school huh?"

The numbers that comes out by measuring, was only as a guide.

Whatever genius you are, if you become conceited it will be your end.

It was the instructor who said that, but his eyes shined looking at Laura's numbers.

Laura was also, proud of herself.

She isn't planning on bragging about it, but if these numbers show that she has talent for the sword, she would be really happy about it.

And there was also the relief that it was higher than Anna's.

Even though she was confident, if her aptitude in the sword was lower than Anna's she didn't know what to do and was anxious.

And that Anna, was glaring at Laura

That side also noticed me huh.

She would be a rival just as I've thought.

The number difference is 9. It can probably be overturned by working hard.

"Well then. Next is the aptitude for magic"

I don't have interest in that.

Rather, I don't even want to see that.

High numbers should come out.

Because I was able to use magic without practicing.

Laura wasn't planning at all of using magic.

That's why, whatever number comes out, she'll ignore it.

That, she has decided, but---.

Aptitude in Attack Magic: 9999

"N?"

"Ha?"

"Na!!"

"Is it a defect?!!"

"999 you say, that's impossible?!!"

"Stupid, the digit is wrong. It's 9999!!"

Seeing the numbers of the Attack Magic that came out first, the students and instructor raised a strange voice.

Unparalleled.

The dimensions compared to the numbers that came out until now was different.

Exceeding 100 would make a commotion, but if it's 9999.

There is no one at all who could understand the situation.

Laura was also petrified, and the only thing she could do is to watch her aptitude drawn.

It was a scenery like a nightmare.

Aptitude with Defense Magic: 9999

Aptitude with Recovery Magic: 9999

Aptitude with Strengthening Magic: 9999

Aptitude with Summoning Magic: 9999

Aptitude with Special Magic: 9999



Laura's consciousness flew out.

I'll become a swordsman. I won't use magic.

To the heart of a 9-year old that was chasing that dream, this reality was too much of a shock.

"Laura-kun. Laura-kun. Can you come here for a while!"

And when she had noticed, an instructor who was wearing a magician-like robe, throws invitation towards Laura.

"The talk had finished so. You are now at Magic Department okay. Yes, let's do our best from today! Well well, it was an unexpected numbers. Receiving talents with just like yours is really happy. If it's only talents you surpass the Great Sage-sama. You might change the history of magic!!"

Laura's mind whitened. And then,

"U-Uwaaa~n!!!"

She cried and screamed, collapses, and lose her consciousness completely.

CHAPTER 3

I WONDER WHO IS THIS PERSON?

When Laura woke up, a white ceiling entered her sight.

I wonder where is this place.

I know at least that we don't have room like this in our house.

Come to think about it, I went toward the Royal Capital riding a carriage, and in the Adventurer School's school grounds...

"A-Ahhhh!!!"

In Laura's head that remembered what happened, four digit numbers emerged as if it was clinging.

Please make it a dream. Please make it a mistake.

I am a girl that dreams of being a swordsman, I don't want to use magic that attacks cowardly from behind.

Impending ferocious monster hordes. Together with her teammates she jumped in, and slashes at them with all of her strength. Ahh, how wonderful. Like the main character of an epic.

Maybe duel with the same swordsman is good too. With colliding blades, just imagining the sparks it made, it made her heart excited.

That dream, that dream.

"My memories are very clear... I was transferred to the Magic Department... and because of that I lose my consciousness..."

Somebody should've brought me to this infirmary-like place.

Rather than that, I wonder how much I've slept.

I wonder what happened to the entrance ceremony.

Everyone in the class should've introduced themselves.

Having heard about the school from father and mother, I was even looking forward to it.

"It's the worst start..."

Laura mumbled, and dropped her shoulders.

At that time, from her side " $*U \sim n*$ " a groaning voice was heard.

There was a person very close.

She couldn't sense that presence until now.

It was a failure as a warrior. It looks like that her head was still sleepy.

"Rather than that, this person, I wonder who is she?"

A girl, went on the same bed as mine and sleeps blissfully.

She was around 20-years old.

With long silvery-white-colored hair, it was a very beautiful person.

---Silvery-white?

This school's founder, and the current school principal, Great Sage Charlotte Gyrdorea has also, hair that is silvery-white colored if I'm right.

But, the Great Sage should be at least around 300-years old.

Laura didn't know anything about magic, but even if she was maintaining her youth, she shouldn't be with an appearance of around 20-years old she concluded.

Maybe, it is the school's senpai.

Maybe the one who carried the unconscious Laura was her, but became sleepy and slept with her... If that was so, she should be a very laid-back person.

Anyways, I should ask about the situation.

Maybe in a thousand, or a million.

Both the 9999 numbers and the transfer to the Magic Department, maybe it might've been a dream after all.

"Uhmm..."

To Laura that had lived her whole in her hometown without going out at all, calling out to an adult stranger, was something that needs a little courage.

But, leaving without saying anything also wasn't good, she don't know about the school's campus. Sleeping a second time was the last thing she'd do. And she wanted to know quickly on what circumstance she was in.

"*N-N*..."

When Laura shook her shoulder, the woman opened her eyes, and slowly raised her body.

And then, let out a big yawn with her mouth widely opened.

She was a beauty but she was sloppy. If Laura did something like this, she would be scolded by her mother.



"Good Morning, Laura-chan. Did you also just wake up?"

"Y-Yes"

She knows my name.

Maybe she's really a school official. Maybe she is an instructor.

Because, this woman. Although the way she talk was casual, her presence, was strange.

She is not normal, I had that confidence in that.

"Well, I wonder what time is it"

The woman confirmed the time using the pocket watch that was lowered from her neck.

It was a splendid pocket watch with the same silvery-white color as her hair.

"It's already noon. Thank goodness. I completely skipped the opening ceremony. Below the torch light is dark. No one could've figured out that I was sleeping with Laura-chan. Thank you. Thanks to you I was able to make it without being catched"

"Haa... You're welcome"

I don't really get it, but this woman, she didn't want to go to the entrance ceremony so she was sleeping here.

"Uhmm, are you a student? Or are you a teacher?"

"* $U \sim n$ *... Between those, maybe a teacher? Ah, make it a secret that I was here. I will be scolded"

She said and *Nikkori* she smiled.

With her young age, she should be a new instructor.

And she skipped the entrance ceremony by having a nap, but the way she wasn't thinking bad about it at all was admirable.

Although, Laura was in the same situation, so she couldn't say anything.

"By the way, I wonder what I should do from now on? I remembered being transferred to the Magic Department, but... I want to enter the Warrior Department!!"

"* $U \sim n$ *... It's something that was decided. Magic isn't that bad you know. Try and use it, and if you really don't like it, at that time you should come and consult me"

"...Haa"

It wasn't a problem that can be solved by consulting to a new instructor though.

Laura still doesn't know about society, but she imagined that it was impossible for her.

If I'm going to ask for help, it should be to the Great Sage.

Ahh, I see. I should protest to her when I see her.

"Well, if you wait here, a teacher of the Magic Department should come and pick you up. Be relaxed. Well then, I'll run away before I'm caught"

She fluttered her silvery-white hair backwards, and jumped out of the bed.

That gesture was very picturesque, and Laura was unconsciously mesmerized.

And, she wanted to ask just this.

"Uhmm, please wait!"

"N, What∼?"

The woman turned around while her hand was on the window.

"...You, are very strong, right? Unbelievably"

I don't want to accept it, but stronger than father and mother.

"Hee \sim ... Laura-chan, you're amazing. Being able to feel in that age. As expected of All Magic Aptitude 9999. Great great"

The woman went her way of going back to Laura, and patted her head.

But, she wondered what was great.

If she's leaking this much aura of the strong, anyone should figure it out.

"If a person sees something too large, he could not be able to keep it in sight, and he could not recognize that 'Something is there'. Laura-chan has at least, able to keep my strength in your sight"

"Keep in sight, you say... I think that as an adult, you are rather petite, though"

"Fufu, that's right. Ah, It seems like Emilia has come. If really don't run away I will be scolded!"

She ran so fast leaving no traces of what laid-back atmosphere she had, and she jumped out of the window.

She should've his something on the bush.

I heard *GasaGasa* sounds.

"Ah, I didn't ask her name!"

Laura ran near the window side and looked around.

There was a very nice view of the school yard in view.

But, she couldn't see the woman's appearance.

"...She disappeared"

In this short time she ran away until she was unseen?

If that's so, I should hear exploding sounds if she accelerated.

It was very quiet, yet her appearance disappeared.

When Laura was tilting her head, *KonKon* the door had a knocking sound.

"I'm an instructor of the Magic Department, Emilia Arkland. Laura Edmonds-san, are you awake?"

"Y-Yes...!"

The instructor that came to pick her up was a young woman.

She wore glasses, a blue-haired person.

She is an instructor at the Gyrdorea Adventurer's School, so she should be excellent with no doubt.

In reality, she has eyes that she passed through a lot of shambles.

But, the unknown aura that the woman earlier was emitting, I couldn't feel it at all.

CHAPTER 4

I WILL GO WITH YOU JUST A LITTLE!

Laura was taken by Emilia Arkland, and she is being taken to the classroom of the freshmen of Magic Department.

The freshmen this year, is 43 people in Warrior Department. And 39 people at Magic Department.

It changed to 42 and 40 people because of Laura's transfer.

Both of them is only has one class, and seems like it was the same last year.

Emilia said, while Laura was unconscious during the morning, the entrance ceremony and guidance to the dormitory, also self-introduction has finished.

And lunch break also had passed, and the afternoon classes begins from now.

I skipped lunch so it's a little hard, but I could eat a lot more in the evening with that part. The school's cafeteria should be free also.

"We should be going to the training grounds and look at everyone's abilities, but before that, Laura should introduce yourself inside the classroom"

"Yes. By the way... Am I really, in the Magic Department after all?"

"That's right. Do you hate it?"

'I Hate it'---Laura tried to affirm it.

That's natural.

She gave the application form to the Warrior Department and passed the exam.

And it became the day of the entrance ceremony but she was suddenly transferred to the Magic Department, of course she'd hate it.

But, the words that was said in the infirmary has strangely caught her attention.

Magic isn't that bad.

That was she was saying.

If it was words of another person, she would immediately forget it, it was that trivial. But it was the first time Laura met such an unknown individual.

But Laura's father and mother should've paid the school fees thinking Laura would enter the Warrior Department.

If it was like that and I entered the Magic Department, isn't if fraud.

"Uhmm, will father and mother forgive that? School fees and entrance fees, wouldn't there be a dispute..."

"That's alright. Because, this school. Is operates only with the national budget. In other words, free. Your parents haven't paid school and entrance fees"

"Eh, was it like that?"

"And the school's philosophy, is to stretch young people's talents. Only that point. In conclusion, not teaching you magic means that, it is contrary to the school's philosophy. There was also transferral of department which was decided by the school side before, and it is also written in the contract papers. Although I don't think that you read that"

There's no way for the 9-year old Laura to read contract papers. In the first place, she didn't know about its existence.

The worst, her parents might've not even read it.

But, even if she knows everything about the contract papers, Laura wouldn't have imagined that she's going to transfer departments.

"...If I, say that I absolutely hate the Magic Department, what will happen?"

"That's difficult... If you were a more normal student, your request might've gotten through. But, your aptitude in magic is all 9999. The highest in the known history. The school right now, is focused on you. All the instructors are thinking on how to stretch that talent. Including me. Nee, please believe me, and take the Magic Department's class. Magic is fun too you know? Try it, and if you really hate it, let's talk about it at

that time again. That's why, ne~"

Emilia was saying the same things as the woman in the infirmary room.

I see, maybe it is really fun.

I won't deny that.

But, the most fun thing is the sword.

Laura has only lived 9 years, but she knows that.

No, maybe I'm just thinking that I know?

If I use magic in reality, maybe, I would like it?

'There's no way that'd happen', she was thinking like that.

All right. If you say it that much, then I'll go with it.

"...I understand. For only, the mean time. I will enter the Magic Department for the mean time"

"Thank you Laura-san! Best regards from today"

"...Yes. Please treat me well"

And Laura, entered the Magic Department classroom.

'I am not going to get fit in here', at this time she was sure of that.

CHAPTER 5

I WANT TO HAVE FRIENDS

"...Laura Edmonds. 9-years old. The thing that I'm good at, is the sword that Father taught me. I was also taught of the spear by Mother a little. My favorite food is omelet"

Magic Department freshmen, 39 of them.

In front of them, Laura was introducing herself and was very nervous.

It would've been easier for her if this was Warrior Department, but this is the Magic Department. Her feelings were completely like an away team.

In front of the magicians-to-be, courage is needed to declare that the thing you are best in, is the sword.

But, it's the truth, so it couldn't be helped.

I don't know anything about magic.

I've only used it twice before.

A ridiculous number, 9999, came out from that strange device but...'

Laura didn't care.

"That's the 9999 girl huh..."

"Even if she's so little, is she really that amazing?"

"We'll know it soon. And, you can't get stronger with talents alone"

"But even if you say that, she's 9999 you know"

I heard whispering voices all around.

I feel like I'm a panda in a zoo.

Isn't there anyway that I could run away to the Warrior Department.

"Attention Everyone. Now that Laura-san's self-introduction is finished, let's move to the training grounds. Follow Sensei"

39 freshmen. 40 with Laura counted in, they make a row in the corridor, and *ZoroZoro* walked in order.

The training grounds was outside the school building.

Surrounded by brick walls, even if 40 students an instructor comes inside, you won't feel constricted.

There's no ceiling, and you can see the blue sky as it is.

But Laura felt something was off.

"...It's covered with magic power?"

The Laura right now, besides the two times she used magic, have never seen magic at all.

But strangely, she knew that this training grounds was covered by a wall made out of magic.

"As expected of Laura-san. That's right. This training grounds is always covered by a dome-shaped defense barrier. That's why even if you create a huge explosion, there wouldn't be casualties around so don't worry"

When Emilia said that, *Ohh* it raised cheers from the students.

Is defense barrier that amazing, Laura thought and tilted her head.

Although, it seems like it wasn't the defense magic that was amazing, it was Laura who saw through it.

"Amazing! Able to find it with a glimpse, how much talent does she have"

"I, didn't notice at all"

"I-I felt something was off too! I could've saw through the defense barrier if I was given time!"

"Well yeah, 'given time' I could also do that..."

They're noisy.

Rather, it's embarrassing.

Everyone's older than me, but they are looking at me with admiring eyes.

If this was sword skill, she would be proud because her hard work was recognized, but right now, she don't even know why she's being praised.

"Attention, chatting is over. I want to see how is everyone's skill today. One by one, shoot attack magic towards the target. Flame, Lightning, you can use whatever you can. You get it? The task is only to hit. You can ignore the strength of the magic. Well then, the one who wants to go first, name yourselves and we'll go in order"

After Emilia said that, *Pachin* she snapped her fingers.

Suddenly, a magic circle appeared at the back of the training grounds.

'Something's coming out'---The instant Laura felt that, flames whirled out from the magic circle.

That flame wriggled, made a humanoid figure, and grew to an adult male's size.

"Ohh... It's the Summoning of Spirits..."

"Sensei, even though she's that young... The Gyrdorea Adventurer School's instructor are really amazing huh"

It looks like it was an amazing skill.

But Laura who had no knowledge about magic, didn't really understand.

"Uhmm... Do you know what's Summoning of Spirits?"

Laura timidly asked the girl who was standing beside her.

She was about 14-years old. And she was relatively young in this group.

She set her golden hair with a round spiral shape, and was making a somehow daring expression.

Everyone was wearing the uniform provided, but only she, had frills and laces for some reason.

It looks like she modified it before the entrance ceremony.



She's not an ordinary person.

But she was easier to talk to her than those who are much older and of the opposite sex.

"Ara, Maa~. Laura-san, even though you have amazing aptitude in magic, you don't know something like that?"

"Yes... Uhmm, I, was a swordsman applicant... I had never studied about magic, that's why..."

When Laura told her honestly, the golden-haired girl made a frowning face.

Well, I know that feeling.

Everyone in here, is aspiring to become a first class magician.

I think she couldn't forgive that there's someone in here who wasn't interested in magic. But I don't know how to explain in other ways.

Laura have not imagined that it would be like this.

She had all expectations within her heart in the morning.

But now, she didn't have even the 'M' letter in the word motivation.

"Ara, is that so! But without studying at all, don't think that you're going to be at the top! The one who will become number one in the freshmen... No, the one who will be the strongest magician in school will be, this Charlotte Gazard!"

"Charlotte-san, desuka. Uhmm, I'm sorry if I hurt your feelings. I'm not thinking of being number one so... Please be yourself"

"...*Fun*. You're disappointing. I was wrong at thinking about you as a rival"

Charlotte seems to have lost her interest to Laura with that, and looked away.

Instead, another male student kindly explained the 'Summoning of Spirits' to her.

Someone said, that the world is filled with the existence called 'Spirits'.

In water, fire, lightning, and earth. In light and darkness. Spirits dwells at everything, and calling out to that spirit, in exchange of one's magic power miracles occur.

That, is magic.

And a high-level magician can summon the spirit itself, make it materialize using magic powers, and make it help you.

Just like what Emilia did right now.

"I see... It's the amazing version of servants right"

"Well, there's also that way of looking at it?"

The male student that taught her made a subtle expression.

It looks like he didn't like how Laura looked at it.

"The flame spirit that I summoned is the target. I've told you earlier that you can ignore the strength of your magic, but you can do your best to destroy it. I still can summon at least 20 of them"

"20 of them, huh... Well, it's natural that the instructors can do at least that"

While she was saying, Charlotte's voice was trembling.

I'm sure that summoning 20 flame spirits is an amazing thing, and Charlotte can't do that. That's why she's frustrated.

I think, but being frustrated of losing to an instructor in the first day of school, she has amazing nerves.

Laura thought of Charlotte as a 'strange person'.

However.

If I change my places with her, I can understand her feelings a lot.

If I entered the Warrior Department as planned, and if an instructor showed me sword skills that are far stronger than what I have.

I would be so frustrated, I won't be able to sleep.

(It looks like I suddenly like Charlotte...!)

I had no expectations at all in the Magic Department, but she might become my friend.

NicoNico That's what she thought and looked at Charlotte intently while smiling. They met their eyes.

"...*Fun!!*"

She looked away.

Laura became sad, and dropped her shoulders.

CHAPTER 6

What should I do, I might become addicted to it

"Yosh, the first one will be me. I have confidence in accuracy"

A boy who was older than Charlotte came in front, and focused his magic powers in his palm.

What he released, was an arrow made of water.

That flew in a straight line, and actually hit the Spirit that was 50 steps away. But, It evaporated with the heat that the Spirit emits, so it wasn't that much of a damage.

"That's good. It hit it. Then, the next one"

The second one was a woman whose age was not that different with Emilia.

'She should have a lot of experience' she thought, but the woman missed.

The third one failed too.

It looks like it was surprisingly hard to focus magic.

"Well then, I think it's time, that I will show the basics"

The fourth one was Charlotte.

Her confidence shows in her whole body.

"Ohh, she finally came out, the Gazard House's eldest daugher"

"Her aptitude in attack magic is 120... She would surely shoot a big one"

"It looked not that much because of the 9999, but 120 is still a genius"

"Is still, you say, she's has a talent that only comes out in tens of years... though it doesn't look that much because of the 9999"

'Can you not repeat 9999 continuously', Laura thought.

"Light. I shall give my magic powers. Therefore, a contract. Crush my enemy---"

Charlotte weaved her words.

Laura knows about at least that.

It's what they call a spell.

It's the words that a magician chants to enhance the image of a magic.

Usually, you would think that you will be distracted if you are talking while thinking.

But it is said that an excellent magician chants an spell, alter their mind, and enhance the effect of the magic.

That was what Mother taught me.

Father who heard that beside me, told that it was the petty tricks of magicians.

But, Charlotte's appearance of chanting an spell in front of me, and raising her magic powers... Saying it honestly, it was very cool.

It was beautiful. She was graceful. I was mesmerized.

Laura who thinks that the sword is the best, had her eyes stolen by a magician girl.

And then, a ray of light ran from Charlotte's palm.

It was a bombardment of white shining light.

It was clearly in a different level of power than the students that went before her.

It hit the Flame Spirit as if it pierced the space itself, and went through it.

The Flame that the Spirit was created dissipates. And it disappeared just like that.

Still, the bombardment of light collided to the wall behind the spirit and roaring sounds echoed.

"Yes, good job, Charlotte-san. I didn't think that the Flame Spirit would be defeated by

a student in your first day"

"Fufu. This much, is natural in the Gazard House"

Saying that, Charlotte flips up her golden hair with her hand.

She was trying to be composed, but she was happy that the teacher praised her, and her cheeks were blushed

Maybe she has a personality that is easily understood.

"And to everyone. You saw the strength of the training grounds' barrier right? Even a magic that powerful, look. The wall is not charred at all. And that is the same even if you shoot to the sky. It wouldn't be a nuisance to anyone outside. So, everyone, don't worry and shoot your best"

Emilia summoned a new Flame Spirit.

After that, the fifth one, the sixth one, the students were challenges it one next to the other.

Laura was looking how they looked from behind from the start, but the students that was able hit, was only 70% of everyone.

And if you ask about the students that destroyed the spirit, it was only Charlotte alone.

It's a bit... no, it's very disappointing.

I expected a lot because of Charlotte's magic, but it rather made me irritated because of the students' pathetic look that came after her.

What is, these people.

Is only hitting it their limits.

If it was the sword, even those who haven't trained at all can at least hit a target.

As I've thought, magic isn't good. The sword is better, that's all I can think of.

"That only remaining one is Laura-san. Come, come. Do what you can do"
"Fufun. I will see your skill"

Emilia and Charlotte, didn't even try to hide their expectations while staring at Laura.

Also, the students were about the same, they were very interested on what magic will a person with an aptitude of 9999 will show.

(Uwa∼... I'm nervous. But, if I did it this serious and there's only a disappointing magic that comes out, maybe I could use that as reason so they could let me enter the Warrior Department)

"W-Well then, Laura Edmonds, I will go!"

While receiving everyone's sight, I stepped forward.

I reached out my palm towards the Flame Spirit, and focused my senses.

I should chant a spell.

I don't know about its logic, I don't have techniques, and I haven't trained.

But on what I saw today, the way that Charlotte did, fits best.

I will imitate her.

"Light---"

The words after this, 'I shall give my magic powers. Therefore, a contract. Crush my enemies', if I'm correct.

But chanting it inside my head, I think that something is wrong with it.

That's why, I arranged it in my own way.

"Devour my magic powers. Gather, Obey, Kneel down. I shall command you. Destroy all creations. Know who is the King---"

What?

The chants naturally and smoothly came out from my mouth, it was somehow very pompous. And very domineering.

If I say it this way to the spirits, I wonder if they would really do what I ask.

It was then, when Laura was making a doubt.

"Ah, Wait! Laura-san!! Stop!!!"

"He?"

It was too late when Emilia tried to stop her.

From Laura's palm, a cannon ball of light... no. Battering rams of light was shot.

The light covered all of the training grounds.

It was to bright that it is difficult to even open your eyes.

A heat wave hit my face.

The battering ram that Laura shot collided with the Flame Spirit, abolished it in an instant, and plunged to the defence barrier that is surrounded the training grounds just like that.

Earthquakes occurred.

The atmosphere trembled.

And the sky was torn.

"Ahhh!! Ahhhhhh!!! Defence Barrier, Repair, Reinforce!! New Barrier Creation, Protect the students, Reinforce, Reinforce, Reinforce, Reinforceeeee!!!!!"

Emilia screams, and uses different kinds of magic.

Laura, with only a glance, knew everything that she did.

It looked like she repaired the training ground's barrier first, and reinforced it for a while so the explosion of the battering ram would not leak outside.

After that, she made a new barrier to protect all the students and Emilia herself, and used every magic power she had to reinforce it. She reinforced it, all that she can.

But, it wasn't enough. There will probably a hole in the barrier that Emilia created, and many students might become casualties.

If it's like that, then the main cause, Laura, should just reinforce the new barrier further.

"...Reinforce"

She whispered, and put her magic powers in Emilia's barrier.

Laura did it naturally, even though she didn't know that it was a high-level technique, she infused her magic powers to another person's magic.

And everyone had no scratch because of that.

The damage also didn't go out.

But the wall that was supposed to be fire-proof, was burnt black.

If Emilia's decision, and Laura's Reinforce was late even for a second... Who knows what would've happened.

"Eh, are you serious... Eh, Laura-san, is already stronger than me? I, who is a Gyrdorea Adventurer School's instructor and a A-Ranker Adventurer, and I, who have the honor of the title 'Dragon Killer' given by the Great Sage-sama... Eh, Eh? No way, there is no way... NONE!"

Emilia was mumbling, and then slapped her own cheeks.

It was only her who started moving, everyone other than her, stood their ground astonished.

Anybody couldn't say a word.

And Laura, was looking at the palm of her hands---Excited.

"That light, that power... with my own strength...?"

Father and mother will surely be angry.

But, I have felt it.

Kneading magic powers, and release it as strong as I could.

A feeling that I can't feel with the sword, the power of ultimate destruction. That, I might become addicted to it.

(No, stop it! I am Laura Edmonds. I'm a girl who dreams about being a swordsman!!)

CHAPTER 7

I'M NOT LOSING TO YOU!

The entrance ceremony day's class, was finished just with the test done in the training grounds.

And returning to the classroom, she heard the last greeting from the home room teacher Emilia and they were released.

"Eh~, seeing that today is also the school ceremony day... everyone is also tired, please return straight to the dormitory and rest. You, specially got tired during the afternoon... Sensei also got tired. Well then, you can go now"

However you looked at it, Emilia was tired the most.

Her cheeks looked like they caved-in.

"Ahh... by the way, Laura-san. Your belongings, is still in the infirmary room. Please bring it to the dormitory. Well then..."

Emilia said that, and left the classroom.

The other students also stood up, and left the classroom busily or remains to chat.

Laura couldn't enter that circle.

It looks like that some groups have been formed during the morning.

Although, it's not like Laura was being ignored, everyone was stealing a glance at her.

But, they aren't talking to her.

Half of them was from curiosity. Half of them was from fear.

(I did it too much, at the training grounds...?)

Even Laura who was not that knowledgeable with magicians, she understands that

her power was a lot different from that of the other students.

"Laura-san, Laura-san. You were sleeping during the morning, so you don't know the girl's dormitory's place right?"

When Laura was absent-minded, she was suddenly called on to.

What entered her sight was, golden spirals.

It's Charlotte Gazard.

"Ah, yes... but who should I ask..."

"I will guide you"

"*He*?"

It was an unexpected request.

She thought that she was being despised by Charlotte.

"Why are you being obscure? You and I have the same room. I am returning to the room right now, you should follow me"

I see. It was that kind of reason.

But I'm happy that she didn't ignore me.

Laura's cheeks went soft.

"W-Why are you smiling...?"

"It's nothing. Rather than that, can I take my things from the infirmary?"

"Yes. Do you think that I am that intolerant of a person?"

"Charlotte-san, is a very kind person right!"

"Eh, just with that?!!"

And then, Laura when to the infirmary together with Charlotte, she collected her things, and they went to the dormitory.

During that, there wasn't a lot of conversation, but just by walking together with a classmate, Laura was having fun.

I didn't know why I was this happy from the start.

But, if I think about it, when I was small (she is still small), I've always trained with the sword, and I have no memories of playing with someone else.

I could really feel how extreme Father's teaching was.

That 'extreme' was fun too...but I should go with the school life here for once.

"This is our room"

"Thank you very much. Ohh, it is very wide inside"

Bed. Closet. Table. Two of them each.

The minimum that is needed for living is prepared.

There is only one lantern, but Magic Department students can use their magic powers to create light, so that wasn't needed.

Laura put down to the floor the bag that have her change of clothes and towels, the sword she always uses, and sat on the bed.

It was a very nice bedding. It is very soft. If it's this even if I get tired during the class, I can regain my energy after a night's sleep.

"Charlotte-san. Starting now to graduation, please take care of me!"

"...Yes, I'm looking forward to that. But Laura-san. There is one thing that I want to be clear"

"What is it?"

"I am not, planning to be accustomed to someone more than it is needed. My immediate goal, is to become the school's strongest student. That means, everyone is

a rival. Especially Laura-san, you are my enemy!"

Charlotte said that and pointed at Laura quickly.

"E-Enemy?!"

"That's right. The training ground's one attack. What was that. Even though it was almost the same magic as mine, it had a lot more power. Were you hinting that to me? I do not care if you take this as jealousy, but... honestly, it was very unpleasant! "

Unpleasant. Charlotte's expression, when she said that, was really showing anger.

"I-I'm... only..."

It's just that, Charlotte's magic was really cool.

I only copied it for that reason. I didn't mean to make her angry.

But if I think about it in Charlotte's position, it might really feel that I was making fun of her.

What Laura did, was something like 'I can do the same thing that you can, but I'm a lot better'. It was the same as saying that.

"I'm sorry... I didn't, know about magic. The best one that I saw today was Charlottesan, so I tried to copy... I didn't know it would be that strong... I didn't think of Charlotte-san's feelings, I'm..."

I didn't know how to apologize.

My words right now, they might be only sound as boasting.

I wonder why did it become like this.

Enter the Warrior Department, train with classmates, make friends, remaining and teaching the sword after class, go out and play to the town---I had imagined that kind of school life.

With this, I can't even make one friend.

Even though I started to like magic...

"Ha, eh, w-wait, why are you crying...?!"

"Because, I did, something bad, for Charlotte-san..."

"No, Laura-san did nothing, I was just involuntarily doing it... Ahh, mou, if it goes like this, then I am the one who looks like the villain!"

Charlotte took out a handkerchief, and wiped Laura's tears.

"I was wrong with right now. I will apologize. I'm sorry. So please, can you stop crying" "You are, going to forgive me?"

"I'll repeat it, it's not about forgiving you, I was one wrong. Being jealous of a younger girl than myself seriously, thinking of that makes me embarrassed with myself. If I just I lost, I only just needed to do my best and win..."

Do my best, and win someday.

It was a very sound and obvious argument.

Surely, wherever that world may be, that is the most basic way of thinking.

But, the number of Laura's aptitude in magic is all 9999.

Is it something that can be reached with only best efforts? Isn't it something that you give in?

"Laura-san. My aptitude in attack magic is 120. Aptitudes in other kinds of magic is around 100. It means, a hundredth of yours"

It means, that reaching it is impossible---

"It means that, I just need to do my best a hundred times than Laura-san. I will not lose. The one who is going to be the school's strongest magician, is this Charlotte Gazard!!"

Laura was startled and raised her head.

Charlotte is looking straight to me.

"Laura-san. For better or worse, you are very special. I'm sure, that you are going to be told a lot of things. You will be talked behind your back. There will also people who will get jealous just like I did. There will also be those who will say bad things in your face. But please, do your best always. Please do not be reserved to others and hold back. I will definitely reach after you. I will win against you. Know that having a discretion, will only look as an insult to others!!"

Ahh, even in the world of magic, there is also a straightforward person like her. Her eyes were like Father's when he was holding the sword.

Laura, why does she think that Charlotte was cool, understood completely.

She is a sprinting light.

She's shines through, just by charging forward.

And she is right now, looking at her.

How should I answer her?

Thank you? Please take care of me?

No. What's with that, senseless lines.

What did I learn from Father and Mother.

Although there's a difference between a warrior and a magician, the words that are used aren't different.

Right. It was a simple answer.

"I will, not lose to you!"

From this instance, Laura and Charlotte became friends.

CHAPTER 8

WE GOT ALONG

Laura and Charlotte went together to the school's cafeteria, and ate dinner.

Laura had omelette and salad. Charlotte asked for a beef stew.

(This omelette... it isn't bad, but the one Mother made was more delicious.)

Laura started to get homesick quickly from the first day.

After that, they dropped the day's dirt at the dormitory's public bathroom, changed to pajamas, and returned to the room.

"Ne~ne~. Charlotte-san. In this case, we should place the bed together"

"...Why?"

"Because, isn't it more fun that way!"

"Well, I do not mind, but I think it is very heavy"

"It's alright! I, was originally an applicant to the Warrior Department. *Yoisho*!"

Laura easily lifted the bed alone, and put it together with the other bed.

"...You're strong although you are small"

"Ehehe~, it's the strength I got from Father and Mother"

And then, the two of them laid down in the bed.

Since they placed together the bed, using the rational thinking that it isn't a loss if the person itself doesn't stick together, *KoroKoro* Laura rolled to Charlotte's side.

"I-It's very hot!"

Don she was pushed back.

It was a shame.

"Charlotte-san. Let's talk for a while before we sleep. Things like before we entered here. Things like what to do after graduation"

"Is it not better to sleep earlier? Because there is also a class tomorrow"

"Just a while. I, want to know more about Charlotte-san!"

"...I cannot talk that long though?"

"Yes!"



'Well, I had the same room with a troublesome girl.' Charlotte thought and smiled wryly.

Although she said that she wanted to know about Charlotte, she was only talking about herself.

Like how her Father was a very strong swordsman. Like the omelette that her Mother made was very delicious. Like things about the beautiful lake near her hometown and how they fished there a lot. Like how she almost got lost in the royal capital before she arrived to school.

She talked a lot of that, and got to sleep earlier.

"I haven't talked about anything at all though"

Her sleeping face was childish like those of her age, she was very lovely, and you would smile with pleasance just by looking.

But, this girl is a monster.

That ridiculously powerful magic that she showed at the training grounds.

Probably, that isn't her limit.

It won't only be just with that. She hasn't squeezed out her magic powers.

And also, there's still room for growth.

Can I really win against this girl?

I said things in a dashing way, but do I really believe that myself?

9999 aptitude.

There is no one who had seen the true value of that.

No, even so.

I will win whoever I'm against to.

I entered to school deciding that.

Then, it is simple. Just like how I have said it.

I would not pull Laura's feet. And on top of that, do my best a hundred times of Laura, and exceed her.

That is what it means how to win.

"Even so... I can't sleep"

I am envious of Laura who is sleeping very peacefully.

I'm impressed on how she was able to sleep so peacefully in a new environment.

In addition, this girl should have slept during the morning.

If there was something like aptitude in sleep, that might also be 9999.

"The sheets are different. The pillows are different. And to top all of that..."

The stuffed toy that I always hugged at home is not here.

Charlotte cannot sleep without that.

Even so, I am already 14.

It is pathetic that I need a stuffed toy to hug to be able to sleep.

Let alone, the school dormitory room is for two persons.

I left it at home, thinking this is a chance to graduate from stuffed toys, but. I can't sleep.

I am placed in the unreasonable state that I cannot sleep although I am tired.

"...It it became like this, I can only use the last resort"

Charlotte looked at Laura.

This 9-year old girl. She's just as big as the stuffed toy.

Since we entered the public bath earlier, I was thinking that embracing her should feel good.

Ahh, I cannot hold myself.

If I embraced her softly, and if I wake up before Laura wakes up, I would not get caught for sure.

There is no problem.

"Laura-san... please excuse me...!"

I decided and embraced her.

In that instance, I felt the bliss feeling throughout my body.

Equal to that stuffed toy. No, it is a lot more comfortable than that.

The smell is also good. Is it because we just got out of bath? Or is it Laura's body that releases this smell?

Either ways, this is wonderful.

It is heaven.

(I might ascend!)

With this, Charlotte was somehow able to get her night's sleep.



In the morning, the next day.

"W-Why am I being embraced by Charlotte-san?! What happened?! Charlotte-san wake up! I, cannot move!"

"Uu... it's somehow a very happy sleeping face. It's still a little early, maybe I should take a second nap..."

Just like that, they overslept, and getting along, they were late to the morning assembly, so the two were scolded by Emilia.

CHAPTER 9

If I am lucky they might let me join

The Magic Department's class is 60% lecture and 40% practical.

It still early in the school year, so their policy seems to be, to give firm knowledge first.

Lecture is about world history, the current world situation, the monster's distribution and how to deal with it, the history of magic and theory. That is what they are studying right now. They are also taught a little about things like the unknown ancient civilization.

After that, practical class. This only made Laura bored.

Defending from the weak Attack Magic that Emilia shoots with Defence Magic, training the endurance by releasing magic powers for an hour, training about shooting a target from far away, things like that, they were very boring.

All of those were easy tasks.

But it seems like it was difficult for their classmates, and everyone was taking a hard time other than Laura and Charlotte.

And when I told Charlotte about that, she surprisingly replied with a common knowledge.

"The slow progress of the class cannot be helped. Even though this school doesn't give mercy to those who have not talents, it is not like it is adapted to people who have aptitudes above 100. The standard is 50. And that is also considered as excellent to normal people. Well, I agree that it is frustrating, but the level of the class will gradually go up. Until that, you should just do self-training after class. In fact, I am doing just that"

Right, that was the cause of Laura's discontent.

It's the fourth day after entering school.

But the only time they went back to the dormitory together was only the first day, and other than that, they went separately.

Charlotte stays for a long time in the library, and does things like sending a challenge letter to a senior and duel with them at the training grounds.

In this school, duels aren't school violations, but rather, they are recommended.

For the reason of raising the aspirations of the students, in the presence of an instructor, students can fight within themselves at training grounds and arenas.

Also, within the instructors, there are also those problematic ones who likes watching the students fight within themselves as a hobby, so there are no insufficiency on witnesses.

Right now, Laura has no enough aspirations to go to the library and study. She told Charlotte 'I won't lose', but her brain gets exhausted during the lecture, and she didn't have enough willpower to go study after school.

Of course, sending out challenge letters to seniors is also out of the question.

She also do not know what to do in self-training.

In the first place, the things called practice and training, exists because there is a goal to be achieved, and to Laura who didn't know a stronger magician than herself, she had no ways to create a goal.

If the instructor, Emilia, would get serious, maybe she is stronger that Laura.

But, she will have no chances of seeing Emilia's 'serious' for a while.

That's why, Laura had a lot of free time after class.

After all, she didn't have any friends other than Charlotte.

She should just talk to her classmates and make more friends, but she is intimidated because they are all older than her. And she also didn't know what to talk about.

If it is about sword, maybe she had something to talk about...

(Ah, that's right. There might be people who are remaining in the Warrior Department. Especially Anna-san who had 98 aptitude with the sword. If it's that person, she should also be bored during classes, so she might've stayed for self-training!)

I should go and see her. If I were lucky she might let me join.

And then, and then. I will make her my friend.

(Strike while the iron's hot!)

Alone in her room, Laura who was swinging her sword, placed its blade back to its sheathe that is connected to her waist belt, and fixed it on.

Then, she went towards the training grounds of the Warrior Department.

In the Gyrdorea Adventurer School, the school building and the dormitory is shared by the Warrior Department and Magic Department, but the training grounds were different.

The training that warriors and magicians do are too different, and there's also the reason that only one training grounds isn't enough.

As she approached the training grounds of the Warrior Department, *Ka - n**Ka - n* she heard that sound.

Inside, it was enveloped with enthusiasm.

There are students who are doing a mock battle with swords and spears.

There are students who are swinging their weapons.

There are also students that are practicing their bows and arrows.

There are students checking their stances in front of the mirror.

There are students training their muscles.

There are students meditating.

(This is it, this is what I've expected!)

Laura couldn't help herself but to tremble.

Only Father and I was training together until now, but that a group of people this much

swinging their swords.

Not only swordsmen, but spearmen, axemen, and fighters, she could only see them as relatives.

She looked around that relatives, and Laura searched for the person she was looking for.

"Ah, there she is!"

In the corner of the training grounds, a red-haired girl was swinging her sword down with her heart and soul.

She entered her own world with a concentration that anyone could feel shivers and make one's hair stand on its end.

And that, with a ridiculously huge sword.

The blade length was longer that Laura's height, and it's as thick as a dictionary.

That iron chunk of a sword, a young girl was swinging it.

It was like very ridiculous sight, but that was the thing that Laura wanted to see at Gyrdorea Adventurer School.

"Anna-san!"

Laura ran up to her and called her name.

In an instant.

The trajectory of Anna's sword changed, and aimed through Laura's neck.

In return, Laura reacted quickly. She unsheathed the sword in her waist and stopped it.

A high-pitched metal sound echoed within the training grounds.

My arms are numbed.

If I didn't defend, my neck should surely blown away.

Anna seemed like she had noticed of what she had done, puts down her sword, and avoids direct sight to her eyes.

"Sorry... it's because you suddenly ran"

"U~un. I'm sorry to my part also. I was able to defend it properly so it's okay. Rather than that, that's swords amazing! And also Anna-san who can wield it! If I were to use a sword that huge, I would be surely thrown around instead"

"T-Thank you..."

Anna was shy and looked a little ticklish, she scratches her head.

It's an honest reaction. 'We could absolutely become friends' Laura thought that and was relieved.



"Uhm, Anna-san. Can you do a mock battle with me?"

"That is, something I couldn't ask for. I was also interested in you. But, you should've transferred to the Magic Department..."

"That's true though. But I really like the sword. I couldn't help but coming here!"

That's right. I can't help it.

I want to swing my sword mindlessly.

At worst, there is also the choice of swinging it by myself, but if there's a chance, having a partner is more fun.

"...I got it. I will be your partner"

"Thank you very much!"

At the instance the two of them accepted.

"Wait a minute!"

There was an unexpected interruptor.

CHAPTER 10

I WANT TO PRACTICE THE SWORD

That man was holding a spear.

His age was in the mid forties. He's older than Laura's parents.

He is not wearing a uniform, so he might be an instructor.

"What, Sensei. Is it bad to do a mock battle?"

Anna mumbled with despise.

"Mock battle itself isn't bad... but the opponent is. That is Laura Edmonds who have 9999 aptitude in all magic, right. Being here itself is a problem. If she get exhausted here and it had effects in tomorrow's lesson, I will get complains from the Magic Department instructors"

"But, the joint training of the Magic Department and Warrior department, is recommended, I learned that in the lessons"

"That's right, if it was a normal person. And also, there isn't a joint training in the freshmen very often. First, you should solidify the basics of the areas of your expertise. It is not too late even if you became second years. So, Laura. You go home!"

That instructor, as if to brush away a fly, he flutters his hand.

She went the way of being able to talk to Anna, and she was about to have a mock battle with her.

Being interrupted with that, Laura felt the blood going up to her head.

"That's tyranny! I wanted to enter the Warrior Department, but it was decided I would transfer to the Magic Department without me knowing... but even so, I endured it and took lessons. And when I was thinking it's fine, at least during after class, but you still say that is wrong?!! I, love the sword!! I should also have talents in it because I'm Father's daughter. Please. Even if it's during after class, please let me be here!"

Laura clings to the instructor, and begged desperately.

So desperately, that it was the first time she begged for something from someone in her whole life.

"Well yeah... your aptitude in the sword is 107. There's no doubt, a genius. But, it is a normal genius. Compared to that, your aptitude in magic is all 9999, that is unprecedented. It is being said that the Great Sage-sama is around 3000-6000. In the first place, that device's setting is only limited to 9999, your aptitude number might be a lot higher. Honestly, I also want to train you. I'm looking forward on how much you would grow. But... if you don't learn magic, it would be the loss for humanity. That's why... let's give up, the both of us!!"

"No way... even so, I still want to train my sword!"

After screaming that, Laura started crying with a loud voice.

She cried without caring about the shame and reputation.

It's not like I don't like magic. Thanks to Charlotte, I was starting to like it.

But, this and that, are different things.

It is impossible for me to throw away the sword.

Laura wanted to be like her goal, no, she wanted to be a swordsman that would exceed her father.

And being said to give that up, there isn't something more cruel.

"Uhm... I was passing by, and I heard Laura-san's crying voice, what happened?"

And, there came Laura's homeroom teacher, Emilia.

"Ohh, Emilia. You came in a good time. As you can see. Laura challenged our student to a mock battle with the sword. She started crying when I stopped her. I can understand this child's feeling, but... I'll leave the rest to you!"

"Ahh, it was like that. Come, Laura-san. Let's go back. If you want to practice, I will practice with you all you want"

"I don't want to!! I want the sword!! Aren't I practicing magic during the class!!"

"Ara. Magic is very deep you know. Even how much you practice, there's no end to it"

"But, there's nothing to learn from someone who's weaker than me!! Sensei, is weaker than me right!!"

Laura said her real feelings.

Usually, she was thinking of that but didn't say it, but right now, Emilia was only an enemy that was on her way.

The next instance, *Piku* something sounded like it was torn apart.

And,*PikuPiku* Emilia's temple started convulsing, and a blue vein emerges.

"Weaker...? You said that to me... who defeated a dragon by myself, to me who received the title 'Dragon Slayer' from Great Sage-sama... weaker than a student who had just entered school you say?! Ha! Don't get on yourself even if your aptitude number is 9999, Laura-san!!"

"What if you defeated a dragon! My Father and Mother, said that it was easy even if they were to fight 1 vs 3!!"

"Khu!... Your parent's have nothing to do with that! We are talking about Laura-san right now!"

Emilia seemed to be really angry.

But, Laura couldn't turn back with that.

Being denied of the sword, means the same thing as my life being denied.

Bullshit to that aptitude number.

What's wrong doing what you want after school.

"O-Oi, Emilia... your opponent is a child you know"

The instructor who was holding a spear, tried to calm Emilia down.

"Senpai should shut up!"

But, he was dismissed with that. The angry Emilia was very scary.

"...Laura-san. If you say that much, let's do a fight. Tomorrow, after the morning's class. In front of the whole class. I was just thinking that it was about time to let you see what is a magician battle was like. I will use you as an example!"

"Just what I want! If I win, you are going to acknowledge practicing the sword after school right?!"

"Of course. In exchange, if Sensei wins, Laura will be using only magic until graduation. Is it a deal!"

"It's a deal. Because I would win"

"That confidence, I'll break it! That is the role of an instructor!"

Emilia reddened her face, turns back, and went out the training grounds while shaking her shoulders.

Laura also roughens her breathing, glares at Emilia's back, and made a bleah.

"...Emilia, there's a limit on being childish... that's too much of a turn off"

The male instructor let out a dismayed voice.

In contrast, the students who were listening around, had their eyes shining.

Instructor vs Student.

And that of an instructor beauty and a freshmen with aptitude number 9999 cards.

It's determined that it would gather attention.

"Sensei! Tomorrow's morning lesson, can't we visit the Magic Department?! I think that seeing other expertise will be a very good lesson!!"

"I agree! By the way, I will bet that Laura-chan would win!"

"Then, I'll go with Emilia-sensei. Actually, I'm a fan of that sensei"

"Ahh, that glasses are good right"

"What are you talking about"

With that ridiculous momentum enveloping, and even the spearman male instructor was groan like 'U \sim n', and started to think about it. It looks like he was also interested in it.

And then, *GuiGui* Anna started to pull Laura's uniform.

"...You cannot lose. I, want to practice the sword with you. That's why..."

Anna stared at me with her huge eyes.

I received the impression of a squirrel from that.

But, I knew clearly that fighting spirits were burning on the back of that.

She is also, finding her rival.

If that's so, I need to answer to that.

Laura also wants to fight Anna. She wants to polish her skills with her.

"It's alright. It seems, I'm really good in magic. I will surely win. And, I will also win against Anna-san next"

"...I'm looking forward"

When Laura smiled fearlessly, Anna also made a thin smile.

I am the strongest. Both of us think like that.

If not, reaching for the top, is very, very....

CHAPTER 11 My CHEEKS WILL STRETCH!

"By the way, Laura-san. Are you not stupid no?"

"Eh, what is that suddenly?"

Evening. Laura who was relaxing on her room, was called stupid by Charlotte suddenly.

There wasn't a hint of it, and she also didn't have any clues, so rather than being angry, she was astonished.

And seemingly not liking Laura's face, Charlotte raised her eyebrow more and more, *Muni* started to pinch that face.

"I-It hurts, Charlotte-san!"

"You get what you deserve desuwa!"

It looks like she was really angry.

But, Laura had no clues of what that was about, and cannot even apologize.

"That face, that's a face that means you do not have a clue desuwa ne. Today, you, not only did you went to the Warrior Department's training grounds, but you also made a fight with Emilia-sensei right!"

"...Ahh, about that huh"

"It's not 'Ahh' desuwa! Even I had not gone for a fight to the Warrior Department. Even I had not sent a challenge letter to an instructor!!"

"No, it's not like I went for fight though. I didn't also send challenge letter"

In the Warrior Department's training grounds, I just went there like I'm going to come and play. That thing with Emilia-sensei, it only became like that with the flow of things.

I can say clearly that I did not do that because I aim to be the top of the school, just like Charlotte.

"How can I say this... while having such an obedient face, the things you do are flashy desuwa ne!"

GuiGui Charlotte was pulling back both of Laura's cheeks.

"It hurts, please stop it~!"

"I would not stop, this is for discipline!"

"Fuee..."

"Wh-What's with these soft cheeks... I'll become addicted to it desuwa!"

"Charlotte-san, your objective is changing~"

After a few minutes. Laura's cheeks were finally released.

When I touched it, I feel like it had been stretched. Isn't this, bullying.

"Mou, Charlotte-san, you're cruel!"

"Laura-san is bad because you seduced me with that cute face desuwa!"

"I don't remember doing that!"

Laura's face was always like this.

If her face would be a valid reason to pull her cheeks, then Laura's cheeks would be pulled at all times.

It would surely be stretched that it touches the ground.

"Well, enough about the cheeks... are you okay? Emilia-sensei is young, but she's a A-Ranker Adventurer. Definitely top-notch. There is the wall of experience that cannot be done with only talents desuwa. You, you made the condition that you cannot use the sword until graduation if you lose right? Is that alright? Would she not forgive you if you apologized right now?"

Being told that, Laura's eyes rolled.

Why is this person who is called Charlotte Gazard, thinking such cowardice.

"Charlotte-san, if you were in my position, would you say sorry because you are afraid of losing?"

This time, Charlotte groaned like 'Uu'.

Right.

That is the natural thing, for people like Laura and Charlotte.

I want to reach the top, I want to become stronger. There are a lot of ways to do that, but the two of them were clumsy.

In these few days, I knew only by talking.

We were alike.

We were not good at having a detour, we only know how to charge. Rather than standing still and think, we'd rather repeat tackling.

It might seem like it is inefficient, but this is the best way.

Because, the moment that I stopped living like this, I wouldn't know what to do.

"...Certainly, that was thoughtless words. Then, let us change the topic. How do you plan to win? I do not now anything about what Emilia-sensei can do desuwa. There is no way of making a plan. There is only one thing you can do. Bring out everything that you can do right now. It means, it would be head-on fight with power. Even if Laurasan's aptitude in all kinds of magic is 9999, I can only say that having an A-Ranker as an opponent is bad desuwa. Yet, when I look at your face... I can only see that you are not considering defeat..."

"Don't tell me that. Even I wouldn't think too much of myself like that. The opponent is a sensei. I am also thinking that I might lose"

To be precise, when we were having a quarrel at the training grounds, I was very confident.

But, being composed after that, I had to admit it was reckless.

Even so, even if the same situation happens again, I would probably do the same thing. Considering, if I win against Emilia, I can practice the sword after school.

"I'll fight and win. With only that, I can have what I had wanted. It's easy to understand and very simple. In addition, even if I lose it's not like I would die. I would just need to focus on magic until graduation. There's no reason to run away. Three years is very long, but I can't handle it any longer. Tomorrow, I will win against Emilia-sensei, and I will get my freedom after school. I am not thinking about anything other than that"

"I see. Laura-san. You, you really have the same way that I think. But, even so..."

Charlotte stopped her words for a minute, let out a sigh, and smiled wryly.

"When I hear it from another person, it makes me realize, how ridiculous that kind of thinking is"

"I-It's not that ridiculous!"

Although Laura was being serious.

Why do I have to be called stupid so many times in a day.

She had no clue.



"B-By the way, Laura-san... I'll swallow my pride and ask something of you..."
"What is it, Charlotte-san. If it's something that I can do, I'll do it you know"

Turning of the lights, the room darkened.

They both went to their bed, when she was preparing to sleep.

Charlotte started to 'ask' for something with a ruffled, bad tone.

As far as Laura knew, Charlotte was always brisk on her speech. That Charlotte, was being tame, so it should be something very important.

Laura forces her heavy eyelids, and keeps an ear out for what she was asking for.

"Uhm, actually. For a long time, I was always embracing my stuffed toy when I am going to sleep... and without that, I could not sleep... and Laura-san, is almost the same size with that stuffed toy. That is why..."

"Ahh! That's why everyday, when I wake up, Charlotte-san was always embracing me huh! I was thinking of what's that about"

"Yes... that's why, today also..."

"It's ok desuyo. Rather, I'm happy. Wa~i, I will be embraced by Charlotte-san!"

Laura was remembering the times she slept together with her mother in the past, *KoroKoro* and rolled over to Charlotte, and laid down close to her.

"Come now, please! Do what you want to me!"

"Th-Then, without reserve, I am going to hug you desuwa ...!"

Charlotte puts her hands around her, *Mugyu* and pushed Laura to her chest. Soft, and warm.

That was, even for Laura, a very good feeling.

But, she cannot be compared how mesmerized Charlotte was.



"Hafuu~... how splendid and comfortable this embrace is... Laura-san, your pillow aptitude is also 9999 desuwaa~"

"Ehehe, thank you very much"

"Laura-san, you shouldn't grow up until graduation. This size is the best you know"

"Yes... ...no way! I want to grow up properly!"

"You shouldn't!"

"No way!"

"You can't!"

"No!"

Exchanging words like that, after a few minutes.

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"...*Suyaa ∼*"
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"...*Funyu*"

While embracing each other, the two of them got to sleep together.

CHAPTER 12

ALTHOUGH I KNOW THAT IT'S CHILDISH

Emilia Arkland had confidence that she excels.

In the first place, she thinks that people who doesn't have confidence in themselves shouldn't be an instructor.

It would be rude to the students.

I decided to be an adventurer at 14.

I was saved from an orcs and goblins horde that attacked our village by the Great Sage who was nearby by chance.

Living legend, Calrotte Gyrdorea.

Her silvery-white hair that flutters by the wind was beautiful. Her back, looked so manly. The one attack that she swept the orcs and goblins with, it was very dazzling.

And ,'It's all right now', her smile the time she reached out her hand to me while saying that, she looked like a goddess to me.

And the next year, Emilia entered the Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School.

After three years, she graduated with summa cum laude, and became a C-Ranker Adventurer.

From there, she rose up with irresistible force, and climbed up to B-Rank in only two years.

And a month after that.

She quickly sensed the dragon that flew nearby the royal capital, and defeated it by herself.

With this, she became A-Rank. At that time, 20 years old.

She was the youngest living A-Ranker Adventurer.

And from the Great Sage that she admired, she received the title of 'Dragon Slayer', and was invited to be an instructor of the school.

And, right now, 23 years old.

Even now, I still have no doubts that I excel.

Even as an instructor, I had been doing well up until now.

But, this year's freshmen are ridiculous.

Emilia's aptitude in magic is 80-90. At her class year, she was the most talented.

But this year, being over 80 at their best skills are not uncommon. There are also those who exceeded 90.

If you talk about Charlotte Gazard, her aptitude in attack magic is 120. A genius among the geniuses.

And what makes that to the extreme is, Laura Edmonds.

Magic aptitude value all 9999.

It was ridiculous numbers, that all you can do left was to laugh.

Every instructor, became restless in front of Laura's talent.

Even if white was black, she should enter the Magic Department, they became rushing like that.

It was some kind of a panic situation. After all, she had more talents than the Great Sage.

And Emilia, was happy because she became the homeroom teacher of the magic aptitude value all 9999 girl.

She was looking forward on how she would grow.

Simply, she would grow a hundred times faster than a decent genius. She might become stronger than herself by the time of graduation---she had half-hearted recognition about it.

That was naive.

In the first day of class, she shot that magic with ridiculous power, and she almost killed all freshmen.

And Emilia, couldn't protect the students completely.

The defence barrier that Emilia constructed, was on the verge of collapsing But, Laura cuts in the magic formula, poured in magic, and strengthened it.

Thanks to that, everyone had no scratch. It ended without anything happening.

"A 9 year old girl who had just entered school, cuts in my magic formula, and even strengthened it... what the, what was that. Even I, have pride at least"

It's not like she had bad intentions.

Instead, I should've said thanks to her, for stopping it from becoming a devastation.

But, not being honest there, is my immature part.

Envy comes first.

I felt like all the hard work that I had done until now, was denied.

The path that I walked through for years, was only the first step to that girl, I was shown that.

"And to protect that small pride, I picked a fight with a student... Really, what am I doing"

If it was alright, at least during after school, I would've let her practice her sword.

More than that, after the freshmen got used to school quite a bit, Emilia would've said that herself.

But instead of that, Emilia was enraged by the words 'there's nothing to learn from someone who's weaker than me'.

The opponent was a child, and also seriously.

Instructor failure. Adult failure.

While being conscious of that, Emilia, will be on a duel against Laura tomorrow. There is no change on that plan.

After all, I'm an adventurer.

There no way 'normal adults' would exist in adventurers.

If they see someone stronger than themselves, challenging them is the only choice.

If not, you cannot say that you are an adventurer.

That is why half of the instructors, have experience of challenging the Great Sage and had met defeat.

"How childish"

There was co-workers that said that. But in that face 'I'm jealous' is written.

"If you lost, I'm the one next"

There were also instructors who honestly said that.

Really, really, what a timely group.

Although they are usually making a bossy look in front of the students. Their mental age hadn't changed since their teens.

They cannot help themselves wanting to fight.

In front of Laura Edmonds, who was a chunk of talents, ignoring and thinking that she was a different living thing than themselves, was the proof of being normal. It's how adults think.

Emilia Arkland is 23 years old. After half a year, she would be 24.

But tomorrow, with all of her heart put into it, she is prepared to fight that supergenius.

Without caring about the win or loss, she is planning to recognize Laura's freedom after school, this is already, a fight for herself.

Of course, if they're going to do it, she's planning to win.

CHAPTER 13

THE LEVEL IS TOO DIFFERENT

There is a training ground on the Gyrdorea Adventurer School

The reason of building it, was because of the tournament that is held between students every year, but it is also used on normal classes.

Today, with official approval of 'Will be used by the freshmen class of the Magic Department', the name Emilia Arkland was written.

The class contents, is to show an example of magic battle to the students.

Originally, that kind of classes are demonstrated by instructors, but this time, Laura Edmonds was chosen as the opponent.

For a reason, nobody would ask.

When Emilia asked for the cooperation of the other instructors, everyone willingly accepted.

To be alright even taking deadly injuries, a specialist of recovery magic is on stand-by.

To not have damages to the training ground's seats, ten instructors who are excellent at defence magic are placed.

With only this line-up, how much fire power would today's battle be, anyone could imagine.

"It looks like she's going to fight seriously against a student"

"Isn't it, she is planning to do(kill) it?"

As if taken aback, or as if impressed. I heard the voices of my co-workers.

That is not wrong at all.

Of course, I don't really have the intention to kill her, but if I don't have at least that kind of feeling, I'll be killed within seconds instead.

"Sensei. For today, we're rivals right!"

Laura who was standing on the training grounds, didn't have a sword.

Although Emilia said that she could come with a sword, today was a magic battle and having a sword will be against the rules so Laura refused that.

Even so, how innocent that her expression of hers.

Emilia was relieved.

Although I was thinking what should I do if she was intimidated, but she also wants to have fun with today's fight.

I'm sure that she was 'this side' of a human.

Then, there is no need to hold back.

"It's not only for today you know. Every adventurer, we are all rivals"

"I think so too. Father and Mother also said that! I will not lose!"

"You've said it. I will teach you that the world of magic isn't so naive that you can win with only talents"

The audience is not only my students.

Even those from different school years, even those students from the Warrior Department, have come to watch.

If she lost with that, Emilia couldn't be an instructor anymore.

Because it is nonsense that there is an instructor weaker than a student.

"Then, let's start. Come, from wherever you want"

That was the sign to start the fight.

First was, the attack from Laura.

I don't have the leeway to give a handicap, but that was the limit for the pride as an instructor.

If I go over that line, I won't feel like I won even if I win.

"Well then, with no hesitation!"



In an instant, Laura ran.

Not even making a feint, she ran straight towards me.

Just fast as the cat monster, horned liger.

She is using muscle strengthening magic, that I thought, but I can't feel the flow of magic powers.

Probably, it's her own leg power. When I think about it, she was the proud daughter of Mr. and Mrs Edmonds.

The shadow of it is faint because of her talents on magic, but she is also a genius as a warrior.

It is needed to be cautious even with her physical strength.

Just like that, while Laura was running, she concentrated magic powers on her fist. Is she planning to hit me directly.

Her idea was not that of a magician. Her way of using magic powers is very unskilled.

But, even so, there is enough magic powers concentrated in that fist to send cold shivers to my back.

If I was hit by that, I will surely die.

(Well, only if she was able to hit me though)

Emilia turned to attack her with ease.

First, stop Laura's charge attack.

Interfere with the earth spirits without chanting. Raise the ground on the arena.

"Nya!!"

Considering the Laura's history, this should be the first time she fight with a magician.

If it was just like the same time as the first day of school, if she was calmly standing still, she could've seen through the magic formula of the opponent and interfere with it. But, it looks like she couldn't do it while fighting.

She couldn't do anything to the ground suddenly rising on her feet, and Laura was thrown up very high just like that.

The attack continues.

"Thy mother earth. Thy flowing wind. I will sacrifice my magic powers. Hence, your body as a fang, pierce my enemy!"

The ground that rose, stretches just like that, became sharply edged, and became a giant lance.

And with the powers of the wind spirits, it was launched straight.

The aim is Laura of course.

Furthermore, there was another attack.

This time, from the sky.

"Thy sky rushing lightning. I will sacrifice my magic powers. Therefore, descend destruction from heavens. Burn down the ordeal before me"

It was a sunny day without clouds. There are no signs of the weather getting worse.

Even so, suddenly, lightning fell together with roaring sounds.

There exists, no proper theory.

Emilia sacrificed her own magic powers to the spirits, and bended the rules of the world.

Magic, is something like that.

I want to make smoke where there is no fire. I want to make rain fall on deserts. I wanting to make mountains on plains. I want to fly to the sky, I want to live a long life, I want to know everything.

There is no other kind of human more selfish than a magician.

That is why it is possible to attack a 9-year old girl seriously.

This combination of lance and lightning on a sunny day, had once killed a dragon flying in the sky.

After three years, Emilia's magic power had become stronger than that time.

It means, Laura is being exposed to an attack that could kill even a dragon.

Normally, there would be no traces left.

Emilia would become a criminal who killed a young girl.

She is trusting her, that wouldn't happen.

(Look, as I've thought)

Laura answered to Emilia's trust.

While being in between the lance from below and the lightning that fell from the sky, she constructed a defence barrier with her inhuman magic powers.

She perfectly defended my attack.

(But, this is...!)

It was, too perfect. She went over my trust.

I didn't think she would have no scratches at all.

This is why it is troublesome with geniuses.

(That's right. I am ordinary. I got too much of myself before I met you. Thank you for letting me realize that. But, the one who will win today, is me)

Emilia's trump cards are still alive.

I will show you everything that I had from I entered school and until today.

The instance she thought of that.

The one who moved was Laura.

"Sensei. The magic right now, I will copy it!"

Lightning fell again.

But the aim was not Laura, but it was Emilia.

"Tch!"

I can't believe it. She remembered it just by seeing it.

On top of that, it was with no chants. The power of it was also stronger than Emilia.

(I will not lose using my own technique!)

I surrounded myself with full powered defence barrier, and blocked the lightning fall.

Magic powers are being shaved, but the next instance that I would think of holding back I would lose.

"Come forth, Lightning Spirits. Devour my magic powers and thou descend!"

She casts a spell towards the lightning that fell to her.

Emilia's magic powers spread, and poured into the spirits that control lightning.

The result was, the lightning that fell to attack Emilia, became human shaped and landed on the ground.

And their number, they were 20.

"The tide had been reversed, Laura-san. You are only going to fall to the ground from there. But spirits can fly to the sky. I can attack you one-sidedly. Don't worry. I'll heal you if you get injured"

The fight ended easier than I thought.

Even though I was taken aback a few times, she is only a beginner on magic.

Even if her magic powers and talents are enormous, this will happen if she don't know how to use it.

Just like that, when Emilia was being relieved.

"Come forth, Lightning Spirits. I'll give my magic powers. And let everyone know. Enlighten them what destruction is"

Laura casted a spell.

And a monster had appeared on the top of the training grounds.

(No. That's only, a lightning spirit. It's not a kind of evil god or spirit beast. But, this is...)

20 lightning spirits that Emilia uses. It was larger than those even if you lined them up vertically.

The level of magic powers used to tame spirits was too different.

Probably, to Laura, she only copied my technique.

But, because of that, the difference of talents directly appears.

These small spirits is Emilia's vessel.

The spirit that sits on the sky like a king is Laura's vessel.

"...go!!"

Emilia ordered to her spirits, and made them fly.

It was a tackle coated with high-voltage current.

Even if that was a dragon or even if that was a griffon, it would be burnt black... but it was absorbed.

The spirit in the sky became more and more larger.

"Slice it"

While Laura was free falling, she whispered.

And then, the giant spirit, changed its shape.

From its right hand lightning stretches, and a sword appeared.

It wasn't the side to slice a human. A dragon, no, it might be an attack that could split a castle into two.

(I'll, die...!)

Not being able to resist the fear of that being swung down to herself, Emilia closed her eyes and squatted.

Her will to fight was smashed into pieces.

It means, she had lost. Her life as a magician had ended.

And her life ends next---.

CHAPTER 14

AFTER ONE WEEK

From that defeat, one week had passed.

Emilia was living like this, completely healthy.

What happened at that time, Emilia had not got a look.

Because she fainted in the middle of it.

According to what she heard from the other instructors, the instance that the sword made out of lightning hits Emilia, a defense barrier was created by Laura's hands, and protected Emilia, they said.

Lost to a student, and even saved by that student.

If you say something about it, she lost twice in one match.

(What, is that. It was worse than the worst that I expected. What face can I show to stand up in front of students... no, even as an adventurer, and even as a magician, I cannot walk front of anyone. What put all of my heart into it and prepared to fight that super-genius are you saying. Overwhelmed, and protected. I was lightly played around... rather, can someone please kill me!)

Not having the courage to suicide incites the misery.

Not able to do anything, Emilia did not come to school the next day, and covered herself with blankets on her apartment room.

In my age, closing up in my own room.

A 23 years old shedding tears after losing to a 9-year-old.

I'm so miserable I don't have any worth living.

Although I knew about that, my tears won't stop.

I'm frustrated. I'm so frustrated I want to tear myself apart.

After fighting her, I understand it very well.

Laura Edmonds is not a target for challenging to or fighting to.

Her level as a living creature is too different.

Even left alone, she will get stronger.

In truth, didn't she grow during the match.

Although she could understand that, Emilia couldn't give up with it.

(I'm frustrated... I'm frustrated I'm frustrated I'm frustrated!!!)

She bit her lips until blood came out.

She was sobbing like a child.

Living like that everyday, the seventh day.

The doorbell rang, and she heard a voice of a girl.

"Uhm, Sensei... are you okay? Everyone, is waiting for you. That's why..."

It was the one who dropped Emilia to a living hell, it was Laura's voice.

It was a voice that was worried about me to the depth of her heart.

There's not even a little malice.

But, Emilia didn't get happy at all.

Instead, all she could do is to bite hard on her pillow to not scream around.

(Go back, please, go back!)

As if her feelings reached her, Laura didn't say anything after that, and the sound of

her footsteps went away.

Thank goodness.

I don't want to meet anyone right now.

But, then, until when will I be able to go out of this room.

Tomorrow? The next day to that? Next week?

Maybe, I cannot stand up any longer.

I did it with efforts. I did my best. I thought that I had gotten stronger.

All of that were illusions, and Laura was even going to get stronger and stronger. Rather than catching up, the gap between us are opening up.

(How stupid. It's alright already. I won't do anything anymore)

Emilia's hate for herself expanded to its max.

And as if she was waiting for that timing, the second visitor for the day appeared.

"Open up, Emilia. Until when are you planning to skip work?"

This voice. Ahh, I cannot be wrong about it.

It's the person that I owe my life to.

"Great... Sage-sama...!"

"Calling me that again. We're working together now right, so call me school head, school head I said"

Gachari it sounded.

The lock in the entrance was opened.

Although I put a double lock, physical and magical, both of them were easily have been broken through.

The door opened, and a woman with a silvery-white hair comes in.

Her appearance was around 20 years old. She even looked younger than Emilia.

But in reality, she is a legendary presence who had lived for near 300 years of time.

Having the nickname Great Sage of Beauty, a hero that saved the country by defeating a Majin 130 years before.

The founder of Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School, and the strongest magician who is still its school head.

Calrotte Gyrdorea.

That god-like person, came to this apartment.

"School head... I am very sorry, but I don't want to meet anybody today"

"Saying such child-like things. Come, let me see your face"

Even though Emilia was hiding with sheets on her, the Great Sage peeled that off.

She forcefully made Emilia raise her body although she didn't want to, and embraced her.

"I was looking at it, the fight with Laura-chan. You, had gotten stronger huh. The first time we met, you were only a little girl who was crying with the sight of a goblin. No, you have gotten stronger even than the time you defeated a dragon three years ago. Look how good you are"

The Great Sage treated Emilia like a child.

No, maybe lower than a child.

She couldn't tell anything back. Because she lost to a child.

"What look how good is that... I lost in a pathetic way like that, in addition I was saved by the opponent, and I'm living a shameful life... I know all about that. In reality, even School Head is laughing at me right?"

"I guess so. I'm laughing happily to the growth of my disciple. In front of a real genius, how great it was that you did not run away. Seeing that fight, there's no one that is saying stupid things about you. Because, the people who were boasting that they are going to challenge Laura-chan next, after all, not even one of them challenged her. The only one who fought properly is only you"

"But, I lost..."

"Yes, that's right. But Isn't that for better. Next time, you are the challenger. Even if it's sneak attacks or endurance attack or mind attack, it is forgiven whatever you do. You can fight even not as cleanly. Train, train, and train hard, and you should just fight her again someday. Or are you giving up? Well, that is also your freedom. You're working as instructor, so it would be troublesome if you skipped work like this"

"...instructor? Is an instructor weaker than a student really needed? What do I have to teach that girl?"

"You're too passive huh ~. Because you lost, you are thinking of yourself that you are extremely talentless. It's not like it's the first time you lost right. Do you know, Emilia. Laura-chan, at the time when the match had started, was weaker than you, you know? Did you notice?"

"Eh?"

That monster, is weaker than me?

"Laura-chan saw your techniques, stole them one next to the other, and grew with unbelievable speed. And 'as I have planned', she was using magic very fun. That's because, the way Emilia fights is very fun. Using a very flashy lightning fall, using many summon beasts, but still have the basics perfect. That's why, it's alright. There's still a lot of things that you can teach that girl. And increase what you can do furthermore. You yourself, are still on your growth period. That's why you were frustrated right? You want to become stronger right? Then, you should move forward. You had rested enough, so start standing up"

Right now, the Great Sage said 'as she have planned', a frightening thing.

That Emilia would be envious of Laura, and going to have a fight with her, both of them had been guessed.

But, to Emilia, that wasn't the important part.

"But... I entered Gyrdorea Adventurer School at fifteen, and I had been doing my best ever since. I had been training for eight years. That, Laura-san with only a few days... no, with only tens of seconds during that match she exceeded me. Even with that, can I reach after her?"

"Eight years you say? Don't make me laugh. If it's to me, tens of seconds or eight years there's not a lot of difference, both of those are chicks still in the egg. Even though you had only had *YochiYochi* steps, its ridiculous that you limit yourself while making a full-fledged face. You should know all about this. You, aren't you wanting to jump out of your bed right now, and train with your life on it right? Not thinking if you will grow or not. Stop thinking about difficult things, and go rampage outside. If you want it, I can be your opponent? You'll get refreshed"

The Great Sage stared at Emilia and smiled.

It's a face that saw through everything.

If I'm stared at by those eyes, somehow being serious felt stupid suddenly.

As if it hadn't been a serious problem from the start.

"...I understand. Please take care of me. I, will let it all out to Great Sage-sama"

"That's good. Then, let's change places. Also, Emilia. Take off our pajamas and go to the shower. You have too much sweaty smell"

"Uu"

Emilia's face got hot.

Because of being on a rotten mood, she was living without eating proper food and changing clothes.

Thinking about it when she had calmed down right now, it was not something that a 23-year-old woman should do.

"By the way Great Sage-sama... I mean, School Head"

"What is it~?"

"Had School Head lost before?"

"Ara. There's no way that could happen. I'm a genius, you know"



Emilia, on a mountain a little far away from the royal capital, used all her magic powers and techniques towards the Great Sage but got lost instead, got revived with recovery magic, got beat the hell out of her again, passed out, got splashed with water on the head, and even still, challenging, rampaged throughout the night, and came to school after a while.

Opening the door of the freshmen classroom, I got nervous.

The instructor that lost to a student, how will everyone welcome that.

No, I should apologize first for not coming for over a week.

"*Suu*... Fuu"

After taking a deep breath, I decided with my will and opened the door.

"Good morning, everyone"

As much as I could, I stood up at the podium calling out with the same voice as before. And then, the sight of the students gathered at once, and ran up to me.

"Emilia-sensei! Good morning!"

"Sensei, this last match was amazing! I, was moved!"

"Sensei really uses a lot of techniques right. I, want to be taught that soon!"

She was surprisingly welcomed.

Emilia who didn't knew what was happening was astonished.

"Uhmm...let me apologize first. I'm sorry for not coming until today"

The class is continued by other teachers, so they had not become late that much... but it's not that kind of problem.

In the most important time, during the first days of school, the homeroom teacher rested for over a week without a proper reason.

She should be criticized.

"It's okay. Because, we were shown a match that amazing. Resting because of fatigue is natural. Sensei, please fight me next time!

Even so, the eyes of her students were like *KiraKira*, she was praised instead.

"Uhmm... was it that amazing...?"

"Well of course! When we get stronger, we can also fight like that... only imagining it makes us look forward to it"

"I know right. Until now, I only knew a vague image of what was going to happen when I got stronger. But thanks to that, I had my goal. Thank you very much"

In truth, Emilia used all of her powers.

There was no way to criticize her strategy.

She lost even with that.

"Sensei, Emilia-sensei!"

The students made way, and a young girl moves forward.

It's the one who defeated Emilia completely, it's Laura Edmonds.

"I, that match, it was fun! Using magic, was very fun!"

Laura that stood up on her toes, looked up to Emilia with her big eyes, and was telling that with all of her heart.

"It was fun? Really? You, who really liked the sword...?"

"I like the sword as it is. But... I understand it right now. Why Charlotte-san, Sensei

and everyone was using magic with all of their hearts. I, want to know more about magic. When I was fighting with Sensei, I understood that I was getting stronger and stronger"

"And, you won. You are really strong"

"Yes... but, will I win against Sensei if we fight once more? Magic that sensei can use, that wasn't everything right?"

"Well, yeah"

I lost before I showed all of my techniques.

"As I've thought, Emilia-sensei is amazing! Please also take care of me from now on!"

Pecori Laura bowed her head.

Without looking down and being careful with my feelings, she was really begging me to teach her.

'Ahh', Emilia's stiffened shoulders had softened.

In the end, I was the most childlike.

And, in this moment, I'm going to say a more childlike thing.

Laugh if you want.

"...Laura-san. I won't lose the next time"

And then, Laura, with her best smile of the day, answered.

"I also won't lose!"

Emilia, while looking at that dazzling smile, thought that 'Did the Great Sage guessed that Laura was going to like magic like this', and had a feeling of unfathomable fear.

CHAPTER 15

IT'S AFTER-SCHOOL DESU

Either the Warrior Department or the Magic Department, students that had will to learn went to their training grounds after school, and do self-practice.

- And, having trainings together with the students of the different department is also not unusual.
- Warrior that can use magic.
- Magician that can do close quarter combat.
- The more that they can do, the more that they became more useful as an adventurer.
- Of course, the choice of raising one special skill is not a wrong choice.
- The point is, they just needed to be stronger.
- And right now, in the middle of the Warrior Department training grounds, two girls are engaged with fierce exchange of swords.
- One is red-haired. With an expressionless face that wouldn't tell what she is thinking, her body is slender. On the other side of that ephemeral air in her, the sword in her hands is humongous. Just like a chunk of steel.
- While gripping that large sword properly, the red-haired girl releases merciless slashes.
- Facing her, a more smaller petite girl. The young girl that still haven't reached 10, held a two-handed sword with both of her hands, and boldly slashing back.
- The sword that she hold was long compared to her height. But with the ridiculously large sword that her opponent uses, it doesn't stand out at all.
- Everyone in the training grounds, was absorbed in the fight of the two girls.
- Because, one of them is being said as the strongest freshmen of the Warrior Department, Anna Arnett.
- The other one, defeated an instructor in a head-on battle a few days ago, Laura Edmonds.

Thinking about it normally, Laura would surely win in a real fight. It would end in seconds.

But, this is a mock battle using swords.

Laura has sealed her best skill.

Even so, Laura's aptitude in the sword was higher than Anna's. But, the time put in sword training, Anna who is in the Warrior Department was longer.

That's why, the winner cannot be predicted.

The attack and defense were lead by Anna since earlier.

The sword that Anna uses as an attack very large, so it was very simple.

Swing it down, or swing it side wards, or thrust it.

Of course, she can do other movements than that, but those three were the only one she could do in an instant.

To Laura, all of those were easy to read.

Even so, she was having a difficult fight.

The speed of Anna's slash, is very fast.

And since the reach is longer, the movement needed to dodge is bigger. Laura couldn't jump inside the waist of her opponent at all.

When she received it, her arms will get numb. She almost dropped her sword.

She doesn't know how it was seen from the side, but in Laura's point of view, it was all on the defense.

And that is not limited to today, it was like that since the last week.

She couldn't reach it with only one step.

Even if Laura thought that she had a one step forward, by that time, Anna also had stepped forward.

There isn't a more frustrating thing than that, and a more fun thing than that.

And right now, Laura's tension has reached its maximum. Her five senses had sharpened. She watched Anna's every movement not letting escape any of it.

(Now!)

Laura deliberately showed a chance, and lured Anna's attack.

She received that with her sword, and parried it.

"Na!!"

Anna's large sword was smoothly, as if it was sucked by the ground, got stuck in it.

Taking advantage of that chance, Laura moved forward at once.

It was a tackle.

Even if it was a tackle from a child like Laura, it can do enough power if the speed is enough.

And in addition to that, it's not like Anna's body is big.

Unable to withstand the impact, Anna was blown away and let go of her sword.

To Anna who collapsed faced up, Laura mounted her.

And placing the blade to her throat just like that, she glared at her.

"...I lose"

From Anna's mouth, the words of surrender was let out.

And Laura who heard that, 'Fuu' let out a sigh, and relieved the strength on her shoulder.

"...I won... I won against Anna-san for the first time!"

She was so happy, tears even swell on Laura's eyes, and a round of applause came from the students that are watching.

"She finally won against Anna huh..."

"A student from the Magic Department defeating the rising star of the Warrior Department huh, that feels complicated~"

"Nah, against Laura who won against Emilia-sensei, Anna who won consecutively until now is more strange"

"The blood of Edmonds House is thick huh~"

It was very embarrassing.

She didn't care about it when they were fighting, but as soon as the match ended, she got concerned being seen.

Laura pulled Anna, and moved to the side of the training grounds as if to run away.

"Ah~, that was nervous... Anna-san. Thank you very much!"

"Thanks also... Laura, your sword was sharp today. Did something good happen?"

"Eh? Something good desu ka? To myself, not really---ah, but Emilia-sensei finally came to school. I'm very happy!"

"Right. Thank goodness. Laura, was worried all the time. I'm sure today was Laura's real sword"

"Is that really true? It's not like it was a bad condition until now right..."

It was true that she was concerned that Emilia was not coming to school.

But, I didn't feel that my sword was dulled.

Maybe the change of her performance in the sword is severe.

Until she came to the school, she was only doing the same training against the same opponent in the same town, so she didn't knew what effects of the change in environment had in her.

"I want to have another match, but I got a little hungry. I want to eat sweets"

"I agree. Let's go to the cafeteria! Would you like to the strawberry parfait that new in the menu?"

"What's that, sounds delicious"

Laura and Anna, their faces was that of a warrior a moment before, but leaving no trace of that, they became young girls and ran towards the cafeteria.

CHAPTER 16

STRAWBERRY PARFAIT DESU

It was too early for lunch, so the cafeteria was empty.

But even so, the cafeteria's Oba-chans are working, and it was thankful since it's possible to order.

"Excuse me~. Two strawberry parfaits please~"

"Ara, you girls are small. I'll make it bigger a little"

"Thank you very much!"

It was the first time something good happened for being small.

But even that is said, Laura is small because she is 9, and it's not like her growth is slow.

She should have a nice body like her mother soon. Probably.

"Let's go to the window side. It has a good view"

"Desu ne!"

Outside the cafeteria, an ornamental garden was spread.

It would be a scramble for the window seat during meal time, but since there is no one right now, there is no need to be worried.

Laura placed the two orders of strawberry parfait on a tray, and walked towards the window seat.

When she reached it, an unexpected person was there.

"A-re? Isn't it Charlotte-san!"

"Laura-san?! and, uhm... was it Anna-san?"

"Why do you know my name?"

It should be the first time these two met.

Even so, she was called her name, so Anna made a curious expression and tilted her head.

"Fufu. I am aiming for the school's strongest. I am checking all the students that looks strong. Especially the same school year very carefully! Ahh, I have excused you. I am Charlotte Gazard, a first year at the Magic Department. Anna-san, you are on my 'I defeat someday list'"

"...regardless of your flashy look, what a diligent person"

"Fufufu..."

Charlotte smiled fearlessly.

But, was Anna's words praising her.

Laura couldn't judge it, so she didn't say anything about it.

"Charlotte-san also had strawberry parfait desu ne"

"I-It's not like I came here to eat strawberry parfait you know. I just needed to feed sugar to my mind and body that had gotten tired during self-training desuwa!"

"But that's strawberry parfait right. We're having the same! Can we have a seat together?"

"I have no reason to refuse. You're free to do what you want"

"Thank you very much! I'll get the seat next to you!"

When Charlotte was sitting as if to stick to Laura,

"Then, I'll sit on the other side"

Anna went to the seat faced to Charlotte, and started to stare at her face.

"...is looking at a person eating a parfait that interesting?"

"Parfait has nothing to do with it. It's just, I thought that magicians are hard to see if they are strong just by looking" "Ara. Then you, are you saying that warriors can see how strong they are just by seeing?"

"I know it somehow"

"He~... I also know somehow about magicians, but I don't know the strength of warriors"

"Somebody knows nothing about what they're not specialized to"

"Well, that's right. But, I cannot be saying those naive things forever. If I were to become a first class adventurer, I need to be able to see through the skills of anyone"

"I agree. The path of adventurers is steep"

Hearing the two's conversation, Laura 'Oya' thought.

Although Charlotte and Anna were are a different kind of person, their conversation was surprisingly going well.

Charlotte looks domineering at a glance, but her emotions appears in her face quickly so she is easy to read. And when I talked to her, I know that she is a very kind person.

Anna has an expressionless face usually, so it's hard to know what she is thinking. In reality, even now that I had exchanged swords with a lot of times, I still don't know what Anna is thinking about. But I know the emotions that she pours to the sword. It was very hot. It was always straight forward. So much, that I was envious just by looking.

"Ah, by the way, recently, I had been able to see through both of those strengths \sim "

MoguMogu while eating the strawberry parfait, Laura said that casually.

Suddenly, from both Charlotte and Anna, I was glared at with terrible eyes. I wonder why.

"Laura-san. You, with an innocent face, say things that crushes my pride into pieces sometimes"

"Cruel with a cute face. Piercing my heart"

"I-I didn't say it with that in purpose..."

I just wanted to join the conversation.

Did I say something that was really weird.

The wretched magic aptitude 9999.

I cannot feel the same as everyone.

I want to be able to read airs quickly, Laura earnestly prayed.

"For the punishment for disturbing my mind, Laura should teach me magic"

"Eh? Magic to Anna-san? Why. I was thinking, that Anna-san will go only with the sword"

"Of course, I will fight with the sword. But, I have aptitudes to strengthening magic and defense magic, it's a shame to not learn. Especially if I was able to use strengthening physical powers, I should be more and more stronger"

When she thought about it, in the evaluation during school's first day, Anna had the numbers [Aptitude with Defense Magic: 29] and [Aptitude with Strengthening Magic: 31].

Both of them are on the level that they won't get through the Magic Department, but it's not like she wouldn't be able to use it at all.

But if Anna learns magic, Laura wouldn't be able to win against her in the sword anymore.

No, if she was going to use magic, then I can also use magic, so the conditions are the same?

"Saying that... I learned the lesson that my Otou-san's thinking was really biased. I grew up being told that even if I learned magic, it would only be a useless street performance. But Anna-san is trying to learn magic naturally, right. I was a little surprised desu"

"...normal people wouldn't have that biased way of thinking"

"That's right desu wa! Saying magic as a street performance, you have guts saying that in my face!"

Charlotte reddened her face, and *Bashin* hit the table.

"I wasn't the one saying it! It was Otou-san's words!"

"Whoever words those are, please don't let it reach to my ears. My eardrums will rot!!"

Laura, 'Charlotte-san also has an enough biased way of thinking∼', thought.

"It's famous that the house of Edmonds hate magicians in the world of adventurers. Especially Bruno Edmonds had the reputation that he's the worst"

"Was it really like that after all? Ha \sim ... I also hated magic before I came to this school. If Charlotte-san and Emilia-sensei wasn't here, who knows what would've happened. Ah, of course, it's not like I had become to hate the sword"

"I know. By the way, Laura. There's whipped cream in your cheek"

"Eh, really?"

"I'll take it for you"

Anna said that and leaned her body, and reached out to Laura's cheek.

But, quicker than that with an instant, Charlotte's finger wiped away the whipped cream.

"Fufu... the whipped cream from Laura-san's cheek... ufufu..."

While Charlotte smiled eerily, *Perori* she licked off the whipped cream.

"That's sly. I was the first one to notice it"

Anna raised the voice of protest, but Charlotte wasn't fazed.

"In times like this, the first one is the winner. And, the first one who became Laura's friend, is me. It is not needed to think about which one have rights to take the whipped cream from Laura-san's cheeks!!"

"If you're going to say that, I am practicing the sword with Laura everyday. I should also have the rights"

"What if you practice together with the sword?! I am in the same class with Laura, and we even have the same room in the dormitory desu wa!!"

"Gunu... what should I say back"

Anna who was normally expressionless, frowned and was sulking.

It looks like licking off the whipped cream from Laura's cheeks, was a very important thing. But, Laura herself, didn't knew if that was important or not.

"Well then. I am, still in the middle of self-training. So I will be excused around here"

"Eh~. If it's like that, let's train together~. Ah, that's right. Would Charlotte-san also like to learn the sword?"

"That is a very interesting suggestion, but to the next opportunity"

"Is that so... then, please do your best!"

"Fight~"

"Thank you very much. Laura-san and Anna-san also, do your best. Well then, have a nice day"

Charlotte returned the container of the strawberry parfait to the return window, and gallantly went out.

"A straightforward and cool person. Adult-like"

While scooping the last strawberry, Anna said her impression of Charlotte.

"I know right! Charlotte-san is a splendid person desu yo!"

"But, I think those blonde curls are weird. It was too much *GuruGuru*, my eyes also might roll"

"Eh~. Isn't that her good point~. Every morning, she's doing her best to set that you know~"

"...she could've used that time to practice magic"

"FuFu~. Charlotte-san is making that hairstyle using the power of magic desu!"

"What. Marvellous even as an enemy"

Charlotte was praised, and Laura got happy as if it was herself.

Her cheeks naturally softened.

"Does Laura like Charlotte?"

"Yes, I like her very much desu!"

"Is that so... what about me?"

"I also like Anna-san very much desu yo~"

"Then it's alright. You're forgiven"

"...about what?"

"It's nothing. Don't mind it... ah, whipped cream on your cheek"

Anna reached out her hand, scooped the whipped cream, *Perori*.

"With this, equal with Charlotte"

"Ne \sim , what are you talking about since earlier?"

"I told you, don't mind it"

"Ha∼…"

She was very curious about it. But it isn't good to step into people's privacy. Even Laura knew that much.

That's why, she didn't ask further... but Laura was really curious of what she's curious about.

CHAPTER 17

CHARLOTTE'S TRAINING

Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School. In the corner of that grounds, there is a blonde girl who is training hidden in people's sight.

It is Charlotte Gazard.

- She, was from that day. From the day that Laura and Emilia had fought, she was always studying alone.
- Of course, she had not slacked off on her magic training before that.
- But, right now, there is a goal that wouldn't be achieved if she did not mean as if to risk her life.
- She did not need the naivety that she had before.

"Thy lightning spirits. I will sacrifice my magic powers. Manifest before the contract-"

- First was the reproduction of the lightning spirits that Emilia called.
- She summoned 20 of them.
- But what Charlotte could summon, was only 9.
- She's nowhere near.

"Ku!... Emilia-sensei did it during the match. In this situation that I could concentrate more than enough, only 9..."

- Charlotte was seriously frustrated.
- But in reality, being able to summon 9 lightning spirits during freshmen is abnormal.
- Even if she graduated right now and become a C-Ranker Adventurer, she could easily pass.
- But to Charlotte, being a C-Ranker doesn't matter anymore. Even Emilia who was an instructor was only a passing point.

There is only one she's looking out for.

Her roommate, and a very important friend.

And a rival to exceed. A wall that cannot be evaded in the path of the strongest.

The one called Laura Edmonds, just as if a hole was opened in this world, one with abnormal talents.

The day of the entrance ceremony, she who brought out an aptitude number of 9999, being exposed by eyes with expectation and curiosity, and the one who is treated by rival by many.

But, after that match.

Most of their attitudes had changed.

Completely ignore her, treat her as a normal student, or look with eyes of admiration.

Whatever they are, the people who saw her as a rival, was mostly extinct.

It was very natural.

Watch that match, but still have the thought of fighting.

Laura Edmonds was already not on the level of humanity. She was completely a different living being. She was not a target to challenge. That's why, there's no need to envy her.

But that said, those who couldn't have that kind of clever decision, although only a few, exists.

For example, Anna Arnett of the Warrior Department, was clearly the on the 'stupid side'.

Someday with Laura, she wants not as a training, but to fight her for real, anybody could figure that out by looking.

And, even Emilia who made a huge failure in front of the public, was aiming for a revenge. Her eyes were shining more than before the fight. Tasting such humiliation, how did she regain herself. She could only be admired.

And Charlotte, of course, want to fight Laura.

I want to defeat her.

If not, I would not be myself anymore.

I like her very much, she is my best friend, and I want to get along with her more.

There is no lie in that.

But, at the same time with those feelings, I would think that I want to crush her.

Although it was not like I had a grudge on her.

Incorrigible. Contradicted.

Seeing a strong opponent, I couldn't help but to challenge them.

Am I crazy---there are times when I think seriously of that.

But I cannot change the way I live.

"Thy lightning spirits. I will sacrifice my magic powers. Manifest before the contract--

I did it. I could finally summon 10 of them.

Next is 11. Next to that is 12. And finally exceed Emilia, and next to that, I will reproduce that giant spirit that Laura summoned.

Until that, there is no time to rest.

"Ha \sim ... ha \sim ... at least, at least one more time..."

The continuous use of magic powers had a huge burden on Charlotte's mind, and even burdens her physical health.

And understanding that, she continues to train. She knew that resting is more efficient, but with that kind of normal way, she also knew she would not be able to reach her.

Just like that, until to the brink of death---.



"You woke up? This is the infirmary"

When Charlotte woke up, a white ceiling, and Emilia who was sitting near her entered her sight.

"...did Emilia-sensei carry me up to here desu ka?"

"That is right. I felt a very large magic powers so I got curious and when I had a look, you were summoning spirits. And collapsed half way. You didn't notice that I was near you right"

"What a blunder..."

"Concentrating is good, but that's too reckless. What \sim , that summon magic. Copying me?"

"Yes. If I could not exceed Emilia-sensei first, there is no match"

When Charlotte answered seriously, Emilia had the face like "YareYare" and shook her shoulders.

"Laura-san, and you too, why is it that too many of this year's freshmen are hotblooded"

"You are saying a very different thing. Originally, adventurers are that kind of living being"

"That's true. That is why their life is short. They would die very early. If they could become sane in the middle of it, and if they could learn a clever way of living, they could probably live long though"

Most of the Gyrdorea Adventurer School's students, had become sober after that match.

They would surely live a long life.

"A clever adventurer, is just a pseudo-adventurer desu wa. If they want to live long, they could just choose a different job from the start"

Here is a student who is still drunk.

A surely addict junkie.

Probably would not heal for a lifetime.

She could only think of winning, wanting to be strong, or she couldn't live.

"Ne~. I don't know how and what Charlotte-san is thinking, defeating Laura-san, but I will give you just one advice"

Emilia was the only one in this world, that fought with Laura seriously.

And her advice, to Charlotte, in a meaning, it might be more valuable than the words of the Great Sage.

"What is it?"

"You shouldn't use techniques that Laura-san doesn't know of. That girl would learn whatever technique it is with only looking, and gets stronger and stronger while fighting. As soon as it is shown in the field, that card is going to be stolen. But, if you fight Laura-san with techniques that she know, at least, she would not grow very quickly"

"But, I cannot win with that"

"I know. That's why if you are going to use an unknown move, use it only when finishing her off. You absolutely should aim for a one hit ko. If you fail to defeat her, it is the end. In the next instance, it would return in multiple times. You should not think fighting her was like with a human"

"...as I've thought, the words that had fought her is heavy desu wa"

The people who saw that match, had vaguely noticed.

Not only nothing would not have an effect, it would only let Laura grow.

What the aptitude number 9999 was, it appeared in a concrete form.

Using Emilia as a test table.

'Beyond human knowledge', was the word that was for Laura.

"But, you're going to fight her right?"

"Of course desu wa"

Charlotte answered shortly, and stood up from the bench.

"Are you okay? Should I go with you to the dormitory?"
"No. I am already fine. Thank you very much"

Inside her head, was full of how she was going to defeat Laura Edmonds. She had no leeway caring about Emilia.

CHAPTER 18

MAGIC EXPLANATION DESU

After eating strawberry parfait, return to the training grounds, and fought again with Anna.

This time, Laura also won.

She is in best condition.

"...I'll win tomorrow"

"Yes. Let's do it again tomorrow!"

After that, Anna begged to teach her magic, so Laura took her to her room.

The two sat on the bed, spread the notes and the textbook for the Magic Department, and studied.

"Listen, Anna-san. First, magic is roughly divided to six. Attack Magic, Defense Magic, Recovery Magic, Summon Magic, Boost Magic, and Special Magic, desu"

"I know. I also know what they are for somehow. But, only the Special Magic, I cannot imagine"

"U~n... I also haven't studied properly so I cannot explain it precisely, but the magic that doesn't belong to other groups are called Special Magic"

"For example?"

"Making something appear to a place that has nothing on it. Flying to the sky. Changing shapes. And others, doing things outside of the imagination. Those are called Special Magic desu"

"It's convenient to fly. Can Laura fly?"

"I am still... Special Magic are very difficult compared to other magic, Emilia-sensei said"

"But, Laura's aptitude for Special Magic is also 9999. You should be able to do it if you do your best"

"Is that so? Then, let's try to do it!"

Laura, while sitting on the bed, made an image of her body floating in air. Then, her body really *FuwaFuwa* floated up to the air.

"Amazing... Laura, is flying"

Anna who normally doesn't change her expressions, widened her eyes.

"Oh~, it really succeeded. I, will become wind!"

And then, she got up to herself and rose up, but... *Gotsun* impact ran from the top of her head.

"Ouch!"

This is inside the room. It is natural to collide to the ceiling if Fly Magic is used. Laura lost her concentration, and fell down to the bed.

"Welcome back"

"Ouch ~ ... I'm back desu. It looks like practice is needed to become wind" "Yoshyosh"

Anna rubbed the bump on my head.

She is a ferocious person when holding the sword, but she is usually very kind. This characteristics of her, was very similar to Charlotte.

"I get the Special Magic. And what I want to use, is Boost Magic and Defense Magic. First, I want to be able to strengthen my muscles with Boost Magic"

Strengthening Magic is as its name says, a magic that strengthening something.

As Anna had said right now, like strengthening one's own muscles. Or maybe, doing the same things with the allies.

Also, sharpening one's senses. Strengthening resistance against poisons and the like. Strengthening cardiopulmonary capability. Strengthening decomposition of alcohol. Etcetera, it is very useful. Strengthening the horse's power and stamina, move in long distances in fast speeds, something like that is also possible.

The target for Boost Magic is not only living things, but it is also effective to objects. Strengthening the sharpness of a sword, strengthening furthermore the magic amulet, strengthening the effects of medicine.

Although, Strengthening Magic has the best effects when the target are living things, and it is learned in classes that strengthening objects have a very high difficulty.

"Be it Strengthening Magic or whatever it is, to use magic, first you must be able to control magic powers. Does Anna-san can control your magic powers?"

"Not at all. Unknown"

"Then, let's start first on learning that. In the first place, the thing called magic powers is---"

If muscular strength is generated from muscles, magic powers is generated from the spirit body.

But a normal person, cannot feel one's own spirit body.

But, it only cannot be felt, but everyone has a spirit body.

It can be said that spirit body is the soul.

"Spirit body exists by overlapping with the physical body. So, the spirit body is generally felt indirectly through the physical body. Now that is said, let's do the breathing techniques I learned in class"

"Breathing techniques? Will you be able to use magic just by taking a breath?"

"No no, this is the preparation stage for magic. Realize that you have your own spirit body, and take out magic powers from there, it's that kind of training. Well then, first, please close your eyes and relax"

"Relax..."

Anna closed her eyes.

And took out strength from her whole body, and weakens even her presence.

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"*Suya ~*..."
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"S-Sleeping is different from relaxing!"

"Ha... I couldn't help it"

Starting from the start, once again.

"If you have relaxed, please take a deep breath. And stop. Slowly exhale, and stop again. Please repeat these. Until that you can do it unconsciously"

Anna, as she was told, closed her eyes and repeated the deep breath.

"Well then, next is, you will find your spirit body. But even though that is said, the spirit body overlaps with the physical body, so it is on some places on your body. While taking a deep breath, let's imagine it. From the top of your head, neck, shoulders, arms, tip of your finger. From there, torso, hips, legs, just like that, look it with the eyes in your heart. Other than your physical body, is something there? Is there something that is overlapped?"

"...this?"

This, even if she said that, what Anna imagined to see it, Laura doesn't know. But, if she is saying she can see it, it's probably true.

"Can you move that spirit body that you saw?"

"It moves. In some kind of a dark space, it was moving like *ByunByun*"

"That's good. Then, please take that from the spirit world to the real world"

It could be heard as an unreasonable request, but nothing can be started if she couldn't do this.

Magic is, changing this world using magic powers.

Nothing can happen if one cannot bring out their own spirit body.

"Come out..."

When Anna mumbled, her body faintly glowed.

Spirit body that exists overlapping the physical body.

That appeared in a shape that it could be seen.

"It's a success desu yo, Anna-san! You can already open your eyes!"

"What's this. I'm, glowing"

Anna stared at the palm of her hands, and was very curious.

"That light is the spirit body. It's pretty right"

"If it's night insects might come"

"u... please don't tell things with no dream! Anyways, magic powers come out from that spirit body. Let's be able to freely take it out and put it back. That said, please put it back"

"Ei"

Anna, with a carefree voice, the faint light disappeared.

"Ohh, you could take it out and put it back with one shot. That's amazing desu. When you get used to it, taking out only one part of the spirit body, and you can use that as magic powers. Everything is image. Right now, we did by focusing slowly, but if you are able to unconsciously use the spirit body quickly, and able to have the image of the magic at the same time, it can also be used in a real fight"

"Looks hard... did Laura practice like this?"

"I was... when I noticed it I was able to do it!"

After she answered, Anna inflates her cheeks and glared with a frown.

"Annoying"

"W-Why desu ka?! It's not like I did anything!"

"It's annoying because you can use magic although you did not do anything. It is easier to compare as with the sword. For example, right. An amateur, with only talents and no effort, suddenly slashed into two a steel helm"

Laura imagined as she was told.

"You would want to kick their ass!"

"Because of that, I will punish Laura right now"

"Punish?! Ah, not there, not my sides desu, I'm weak there desu... Ah, Ahyahyahya!!"

"To the ears *Fuu ~*"

"Nnyaa?! Pleash shtaph~... ahyun, that mush, pleash stahp~..."

Laura's ears and sides and armpit and back of her feet and her hips, anyways, got her weaknesses attacked, and became *FunyaFunya*.

"...I thought that you were the strongest, but there were surprisingly a lot of weaknesses. Memo, memo"

"Uu... you shouldn't memo that desu yo. While fighting, I will not let you do * $Fuu \sim$ * to my ears...!"

"Is that so. Then I'll do it right now. * $Fu \sim Fu \sim *$ "

"Nyaaaaaa!"

Laura, without any decent resistance, was done as Anna wanted.

Powers aren't entering her body.

She tried to somehow run away by crawling, but being mounted by Anna, she couldn't do anything.

"Cho!? You girls, what are you doing desu no!"

And right there, Charlotte returned.

Pointing her finger and blushing, *PuruPuru* she was trembling.

"What, you say, I was playing tricks to Laura"

"Tricks... harenchi desu wa, harenchi desu wa!!"

Charlotte blushed her face and covered her eyes with both hands.

But, from the gap of her finger, she was looking properly.

"Charlotte-san~... stop looking and save me~..."

"I-I will save you right now desu wa! Anna-san, ready yourself!!"

"Charlotte too, to the ears *Fu ~*"

"Ahyaaan!"

And Anna's musou started.

Translator Notes:

- 1. Harenchi = scandal/dishonorable/disgrace/etc, watch to love-ru, that is harenchi
- 2. musou = to be peerless/matchless in something, mostly fights/battles/wars or against lolis, whichever you prefers
- 3. changed Boost Magic to Strengthening Magic.

CHAPTER 19

STUFFED TOY PAJAMA DESU

"Good grief, because of Anna-san I wasted stamina"

"Charlotte's bad for letting out a cute voice. I demand apology and compensation"

"Why are you asking such thing to the victim which is me!!"

"Well well. Let's go slow and silent at least in the bath"

When Laura conciliated her, Charlotte finally got silent, and soaked in the bathtub to her shoulders quietly.

Even so, the public bath of the dormitory is really wide.

In the bathtub on my family house, I couldn't reach out my feet.

And that, in this public bath, many people can enter at the same time, if you ignore the embarrassment you can even swim.

"*PashaPasha*"

"Hey, Anna-san! Please do not swim, you are disgraceful desu wa!"

There was a person who didn't have embarrassment.

I'm a little envious.

"By the way, Charlotte-san. Before Anna-san tickled you, you had a very exhausted face. What were you doing? It seems that you used plenty of your magic powers... it's suspicious desu!"

"I-It's not suspicious at all. I was just self-training desu wa"

Charlotte was strangely in panic.

It's suspicious.

"Really? Was it really self-training? Maybe you are training for a secret finishing move... that's interesting! Please let me join, please let me join \sim "

"Even if it was a secret finishing move, the more it is a secret. Laura-san. It is true that you are my friend, but at the same time, you are my rival. I will not show my cards wa"

"Rival at the same time a friend... ehehe, friends with Charlotte-san!"

"You're reacting there?!"

"Because you know, Charlotte-san had never said that we're friends before. So, I'm very happy. Please continue on being my friend from now on!"

"Ugh!... I-I understand... but, I will also not stop being your rival!"

"Yes! By the way... your body is somehow pinkish, did you stay in the bath for long?"

Anna-san did the *Fu \sim * to the ear attack while she was tired after her secret training, so her stamina should already be zero.

I want her to rest before she collapses.

"T-That's right, I have stayed in the bath for a long time desu wa. Nose blood might come out desu wa!"

"Eh, that's bad! You should hurry up and go out of the bath!"

"No... it's okay desu wa. If I look at Laura-san's face it would heal!"

"Ha~, is that so"

I didn't know my face had that kind of ability.

But, although she said that, I think that Charlotte's getting redder and redder.

Rather than that, it was Laura who was getting dizzy.

"I will go up already, so Charlotte-san, please stay as much as you want"

"If it's like that, I will also go up"

"Then, me also"

In the end, the three of them left the public bath together, and changed to their

pajamas in the changing room.

This is the girl's dormitory.

There are no worries about being seen by boys, so there is no problem walking through the corridor wearing only pajamas.

"Oya? Anna-san, you're wearing a very cute pajamas!"

"Recently, I found it in the town"

Anna's pajamas was a cat's stuffed toy pajamas.

Selling something this cute, as expected of the royal capital.

It would have been never seen in the hometown of Laura.

"Anna-san... y-you're very cute desu wa~..."

Charlotte who saw that Anna, her eyes shone and hugged her.

The fact is, Charlotte loves stuffed toys so much that she couldn't sleep if she didn't hug one.

And right now, Anna is the stuffed toy itself.

There's no helping her to be excited.

"You're welcome. If you liked it, on the next rest day, want to buy it together?"

"Oh \sim That's a good idea. I also want stuffed toy pajamas! The three of us with the same! If you want, let's do a pajama party!"

Laura, Charlotte, and Anna, the three of them wearing animal stuffed toy pajamas, while laying on the bed, eat snacks, talk about things that doesn't matter.

Just imagining it, it looks very fun.

It was the school life that Laura was admiring for.

"Uu!... stuffed toy pajamas are very appealing, but... I can't be playing around during my rest day..."

"Eh~, why is that? It's the rest day so isn't it okay to play around. D-Don't tell me, are you going to train during the rest day?"

"Of course desu wa! If I don't do that, I cannot reach Laura-san!"

Charlotte's words, Laura couldn't say anything back.

I want to get along with her more. But at the same time, I want her to be my rival.

And right now, she's doing all her efforts to become my rival.

I cannot get on her way.

"I understand... then, I will buy pajamas that will look well with Charlotte-san!" "Please do!"

She asked very firmly.

"...you shouldn't push yourself and just come with us"

Anna said whisperingly.

Laura agrees.

"Please do not tempt me! While you girls are playing around, I will move forward, I will catch up to you even with a step desu wa!"

Charlotte who shouted that, had tears swelling in her eyes.

The truth was, she really, really want to play around.

But declaring that she wouldn't go, means she had a considerable amount of will in her decision.

It looks like persuading her is useless.

"Anna-san. Charlotte-san is serious. It's a shame, but let's just go the two of us"

"I wanted to get along more with Charlotte though. Too bad"

"u..."

For the meantime, Laura and Anna promised to go to the town with the two of them, and they dispersed for the day.

And on that day.

Laura woke up with the sounds of *GataGoto*.

When she looked at the clock in the wall, it was still very early for the meeting with Anna.

I wonder what this *GataGoto* is.

And usually when I wake up, I was behind embraced by Charlotte, there isn't that feeling of touch today.

When I thought it was strange and raised my body, there was Charlotte who lined up different kinds of clothes and *UnUn* groaning.

"...what are you doing this early~?"

"L-Laura-san?! T-That's not it! It's not like that I wanted to skip training and go play with the two of you, it's not like I was wondering what to wear... uhmm, e \sim to..."

Charlotte was doing her best to say excuses.

Wondering what kind of things was she was going to say in this kind of situation, Laura wanted to play a trick on her and waited on what lines Charlotte would say.

But it looks like she wasn't able to think of anything, Charlotte looks down, and at last, she started crying.

"P-Please bring me with you $\sim\sim\sim$ "

"You shouldn't just have pushed yourself in the first place..."

Although she was older, Laura couldn't help but talk casually.

Being waken up early in the morning, she was a little grumpy.

CHAPTER 20

ROYAL CAPITAL LEDION DESU

It is being said that the population of Falleon Kingdom is around two million.

The Royal Capital Ledion which was in the center of the country is adjacent to a wide river, and the waterways that are pulled from there runs like a mesh.

There is a prosperous flow of physical distribution utilizing that, and because it was simply beautiful, it has a good reputation within the citizen.

But there are rare times that water-type monsters enters the waterways, so the adventurer guild is commissioned by the country, and they are always on the lookout.

Laura was walking in that royal capital with Charlotte and Anna beside her.

Playing in the town to play with friends.

I am so happy even if it was for such a trifle thing.

And, I had not had the chance to carefully look at it until now, but I can see how beautiful the waterways of the royal capital by walking slowly like this.

The sunlight that reflects on the water surface looks very beautiful.

And the boat that runs over that was also cute.

The ground is made of colorful bricks, and it gives the fun feeling.

"I, didn't know that the royal capital was such a beautiful town!"

"If I think about it, Laura-san came from another town right"

"Yes. I was very worried living far away from my parents for the first time... but thank goodness that my roommate was a kind person like Charlotte-san!"

"I-Is that so... you're welcome!"

When Charlotte is praised, and saying thanks, she immediately blushes.

It seems like she was quite a shy person.

She is a very cute person although she was older.

Laura liked that Charlotte.

"Is Charlotte-san from the royal capital?"

"Yes. From generations, the House of Gazard are magicians in the royal capital. I mean, for a person that aims to become an adventurer, you should at least know the name Gazard"

"Uhmm, I'm sorry... I didn't know"

"Well, Laura-san is from the House of Edmonds that hates magicians so it cannot be helped. So please, it is okay even if you do not make such an apologetic face"

"A-re. Was I making that face?"

"Laura-san immediately shows in her face, so it is very easy to read your expressions desu wa"

"Mumu... but, I think it's not as bad as Charlotte-san!"

"I-I don't show emotions on my face! It's Poker Face desu wa!"

"Eh?! Are you saying that seriously?"

If Charlotte has a poker face, then anyone in the world would have a poker face.

"That, 'What is she saying' face, please stop it!"

"Even if you say that..."

"Anna-san. You, between Laura-san and I, who do you think has expressions easier to read? Please answer honestly"

Anna who was asked, stared at Laura and Charlotte's face alternately, and shook her shoulders.

"You're both the same. Shows what you're thinking immediately"

"No way... I didn't know..."

"I have to be careful, my mind will be read during battle..."

"See. You clearly get down"

Being pointed out by Anna, Laura and Charlotte was astonished at the same time.

And because it shows in their faces that they were astonished, there was no saving them.

It looks like the path of the poker face is very hard.

"And what about Anna-san, where did you come from?"

"Probably, royal capital"

"Probably, you say, what does that mean?"

"I also don't know a lot. I was here ever since I remember"

"That was likely of Anna-san, a goofy answer"

"I have no excuses"

Anna scratches her head as if to let it pass by.

"In the first place, why is Anna-san aiming to become an adventurer? In my case it was the influence of my parents, Charlotte-san's case, I know that her family was generations of magicians"

"That's embarrassing so it's a secret. I won't tell Laura"

"Haa∼…"

"You are too mysterious desu wa"

"They said that mysterious women are popular"

"Eh, Anna-san, do you want to be popular with boys?"

"No, not really"

'She really is a person who says strange things ~', Laura was impressed.

You couldn't tell what she is thinking from reading her expression.

But, she already had that level of sword skills since she entered school.

There is no doubt that there is a deep reason.

"Rather than that, the number one question... is why are you wearing uniform although it is rest day desu wa!"

Right. As Charlotte had said, Anna was still wearing the school's uniform.

Although one part of having fun when going out with everyone was, what are they going to wear.

I don't think that it's like that, but.

"Uniform is my best clothes. Also, I only have the pajama"

That was really it.

Does she really not care how she look. Or does she has no money.

And the reason of aiming to become an adventurer, also might be around there.

Laura was scared to ask. Charlotte was also making a serious face.

"I also have a question to Charlotte. That pendant. It's not that cute, why are you wearing it?"

"Ah, I'm also curious about that! Charlotte-san, although you're very fashionable, why is your pendant very ominous? It doesn't fit you"

Today's Charlotte's attire is a fluttery frilly, clothes that really look like a milady.

Regardless of that, her pendant was shaped like a skull that was minimized and rounded.

Honestly, it was very eerie.

"O-Ominous, don't say it like that! This is the treasure that is passed in the House of Gazard. It is the Pendant of Magic Sealing desu wa. Wearing this will place a burden on the mind, and you can train magic powers using it naturally desu wa!"

"Eh~. We went out to play, so you can stop training right~"

"I will not stop! Thanks to the Pendant of Magic Sealing I can play with you two while training. If you tell me to remove it I will go home!"

Charlotte, every day and every minute, she is doing all her best during classes and even after.

That's why she should at least rest during the rest day.

Today, Laura was relieved although she wasn't the person itself because she came like this.

But, to think that there was that kind of mechanism.

She's probably not planning to stop training for 365 days.

There's a training maniac here.

"But, I'm a little interested in the Pendant of Magic Sealing. I also want to wear it!"

"Laura-san will? Fufu, as you want. Even if it is you, I think that the unfamiliar burden in the mind is hard!"

Charlotte happily lent the pendant.

Maybe she wanted to see Laura whine defeat.

Is it that hard---I got ready, and wore it.

"...ohh, it really feels my mind being pushed!"

"Eh, is that all?"

"Yes. That is all"

"Is that so..."

Charlotte was blatantly disappointed and took away the pendant from Laura.

It looks like she was expecting a huge reaction.

"Pendant of Magic Sealing, I also want to wear it. Let me borrow it for a bit"

Anna was observing the pendant very curiously.

"Anna-san should think twice. Anna-san who is from the Warrior Department cannot bear with it"

"That's not true at all. I have recently, been taught of magic from Laura. That's why it's

alright" "...Laura-san, is that true?" "U~n... it's true that I taught her the basics of controlling magic powers though" With that much, it couldn't be said that she could use magic. Let alone be enough for the burden on the mind that Charlotte has judged 'It can be used for training', I'm sure that she would not be able to bear it. Regardless of that, Laura had not felt any burden at all, but... she could at least be aware that her senses deviate from the rest of the world. "Give it to me, give it to me" "It is really for a bit, alright?" "Yav" Anna received the pendant from Charlotte, and wore it on her neck. That instant. "GYAN!" She shouted and collapsed. "A-Anna-saaaaaaan!" "This is bad!! This is bad!!" Laura and Charlotte raised Anna up with their arms in a hurry, removed the pendant,

and *PechiPechi* slapped her cheeks.

"U-U~n... where is this?"

"Anna-san, you're awake! Thank goodness~"

"See, did I not tell you. The Pendant of Magic Sealing is too early for Anna-san"

"...to think it was that much... I mean, Charlotte who's wearing this unfazed is weird. What kind of nerves do you have?"

"Do not call me as if I am a person without nerves! It is just from the difference of magic powers! In the first place, was not Laura-san also unfazed!"

"It's because it's common sense that Laura is weird"

"You said something cruel casually right?!"

The Pendant of Magic Sealing has its place again on Charlotte's neck.

Anna stood up while her lips were frowning from frustration, and dropped the dust on her skirt.

"By the way, that is the store I bought the pajama"

It was a large general store that Anna was pointing to.

It looks like she collapsed close by the destination.

"I-If we go there... we can get that cute stuffed toy pajama huh... quickly, as quickly as you can!"

Charlotte ran off while sounding her steps by herself.

It felt as she couldn't hold it any longer.

Even though she was like that, it was very funny that she wasn't planning on coming for today on the start.

"The cutest one is Charlotte"

"I agree desu. Charlotte-san is very cute desu yo!"

And chasing after that very cute Charlotte, Laura and Anna went towards the general store.

CHAPTER 21

THAT IS ME IN YOUR IMAGINATION DESU!

General stores are the dream world for girls.

Stationery. Calendar. Handkerchief. Small bottles. Cup and dishes. Accessories. Shoes. And etcetera.

All of these and that are so cute, *Kya ~Kya ~* Laura and Charlotte raises cheers while going around inside the store.

"And, this is the stuffed toy pajama right!"

"How cute is that desu wa...!"

Taking about an hour, they finally arrived in front of the goods they were looking for. There was, the colorful pajamas that had different kinds of animal motif lined up.

"Anna-san has the cat, so let's choose a different kind of animal"

"Laura looks like a puppy, so I think dog is good"

"Really? Then I let's choose that. WanWan!"

Laura thought it was good to choose it herself, but it was also good making a friend choose it.

"I wonder which one should I pick"

"Charlotte is like a rabbit"

"Ah, I know. Charlotte-san is definitely Usagi-san desu!"

"Am I, really like a rabbit?"

It looks like Charlotte wasn't aware of it, and was making a strange face.

"Yes! Like when you're easy to be lonely!"

"If you were alone, you might commit suicide"

"There is no way I would do that!"

Muki~ Charlotte's eyes narrowed.

She's really cute since her expression is easy to read after all.

But Laura remembered that she also had expressions that is easy to read just as much Charlotte had, so she felt complicated.

"Then, for example. Imagine you are told by Laura, 'I hate you so much"

"Eh, by Laura-san...?"

Charlotte stared intently at Laura's face.

And suddenly, large tears rolled down her cheeks.

"I-I cannot live anymore~~!!"

"Ehh?! Please calm down, Charlotte-san. That is me in your imagination! The me, in reality, will never hate Charlotte-san, so please don't cry! Come here, yosh yosh"

"Uu! Uu!... Laura-san, Laura-saaaan~!"

Charlotte hugs to Laura while fluids from her eyes and nose dripping.

The other customers were looking what was going on.

It was very embarrassing.

Laura tried to ask Anna for help, but you wouldn't believe it, she was looking at some place and acting like a stranger.

"You know, Charlotte-san, everyone is looking... please stop it, it's embarrassing!"

"No way... as I have thought, Laura-san hates me right!"

"I'm telling you that's wrong! My goodness, why did it become like this huh!?"

Laura dragged Charlotte who wouldn't stop crying to the register.

"Come now, come now. Please pay for your own"

ShikuShiku Charlotte took out the money from her purse while crying.

But, after she received the paper bag from the store clerk, looks like the happiness of obtaining the stuffed toy pajama exceeded the sadness, and she gradually turns to a smile.

"Fufufu, tonight is a pajama party desu wa"

"What a simple person"

"Anna-san. Did you say anything?"

"Nope"

"Do not tell lies!"

MuniMuni, Charlotte pulls Anna's cheeks.

"The two of you, please do not fight. Rather than that, there's still a lot of time left, let's play with a lot of places more!"

"I think so too. Laura-san, do you have a place that you want to go? I will guide you"

"U \sim n... in the first place, I don't know what kind of places there is in the royal capital..."

Thinking about it, after entering the school, I was living only inside the school grounds.

After all, I can eat for free when I go to the cafeteria, I can get the daily necessities from the school shop.

Even today, if there wasn't the errand of buying the stuffed toy pajama, I would either stay in the dormitory to review and prepare for the class, or swing the sword in the yard.

"If that's so, I have a recommended spot. It is very lively, and if it were us, we can have fun while earning money"

"Eh, is there an amazing place like that?! I, already used all the allowance for the month buying the stuffed toy pajama earlier, so if I can earn money it would be helping!"

"Anna-san. I was always living in the royal capital, but I do not know such a place you know?"

"There's no way. You know it, but it only doesn't come to your mind"

Charlotte places her hand in her chin and thought about it.

But it looks like, it really doesn't come up to her mind.

"I give up desu wa..."

Laura also thought of a lot of things, but she couldn't imagine at all.

Earn money while having fun.

If that really exists, it would be the best place.

"You two, you're pathetic. You're a failure as a student of the Gyrdorea Adventurer School"

Anna taught the answer.

Hearing it, I see.

I don't know what to do since I couldn't reach the answer.

"The answer is simple. Adventurer's Guild"

CHAPTER 22 ADVENTURER GUILD DESU

It is being said that there is surely an Adventurer Guild in a decent size town.

- The independence of each branch is high, and it is managed by the discretion of the branch chief and executives.
- Although, it is not like they have no connections to each other.
- If someone registers as an adventurer on one branch, he/she could take the quest even in other branches.
- At times like strong monsters appearing and it couldn't be taken care of that town's adventurer, they can ask the other branches for help.
- And there is no age requirement to register as an adventurer.
- Even if you are 5 years old, or a dying old man, if you can reach the guild with your own feet, you can easily register.
- Of course, a rookie adventurer that had just registered cannot receive difficult quests.
- It is sure that he/she would die, and that branch would lose its trust if they continued to fail.
- Because of that, adventurers are ranked.
- It starts with G-Rank, after showing actual results, you can be promoted to F-Rank, E-Rank.
- If your Rank goes up, the difficult quest would be passed on too.
- "Actually, I'm an E-Rank adventurer"
- While they were going to the adventurer guild of the royal capital, Anna surprisingly blurted that out.

"Ehh?! You're already an adventurer even though you're a student?"

Laura was surprised, but Charlotte made a face that it was natural.

"Ara. I am also at least registered. I have not yet accepted a quest so I am still G-Rank though. After all, G-Rank quests are herbs collection, helping to farm, they are all not adventure-like works. But if I graduate at Gyrdorea Adventurer School, I could be C-Rank from the start. I can fight monsters that are decently tough"

"I did my best simply and rose to E-Rank. The guild's promotion examination was difficult, so it took time to raise my rank. Especially children, even if they have the skills, it's hard to get promoted"

Anna said, after getting to E-Rank, she was finally able to earn decently.

Below that rank, the rewards are only at the level of pocket money.

While in school, or before entering the school, there were a lot of students other than Anna who had already had their adventurer debut, and she said that it was money for playing around, or sending it to their family home.

"Although, they can only take a quest during the weekends, so it's not like they could earn that much. Escort mission for a long time is also impossible"

"The attendance is not going to be enough. And also, there was a school rule that [You cannot fight monsters higher than D-Ranked]. Normal students will just end up getting hunted instead"

"I see \sim . Then, I'll just register huh"

"If you register, you can buy weapons from the stores retailed by the guild cheaper. Also, they are buying the materials taken from monsters and items that are found from ruins. If you use that, you can earn decently even if you don't accept quests. It's not anybody's request so nobody would be in trouble even if you fail. You will only die"

"Ohh! Then, let's go subjugate some monsters!"

The adventurer guild was a huge building along a waterway.

Entering inside, there were huge men with scars on their faces, and magician-like people who were clad with hoods.

There was some lady receptionist at the counter, and they were corresponding to the adventurers.

"Paper written with quest contents are posted on that bulletin board. If there was a quest you want to take, you take it off and take it to the receptionist. But, you can't take quests higher than your rank. Registration for adventurers is also done at the reception counter. There is a pub if you go to the second floor. We're still kids so we can't drink alcohol, but the food is cheap and delicious. In the pub, there's a lot of exchanging information and party invitations. When you go to the back of the building, guild retailed weapon shops and armor shops are aligned. It's cheap and has decent goods. I also bought my sword from the guild retailed weapon shop. These shop can't be used if you're not an adventurer"

"Hohe~. Becoming an adventurer has a lot of perks huh. I like the part that you can use decent stores cheaper!"

"Ara. Rather than cheap, decent goods, is it not better to choose expensive and ultrahigh level ones?"

Although Laura and Anna were getting fired up with 'The cheaper the better', Charlotte ruined it from the side.

"...this is why rich people are"

"My family has also decent money, but we're not that doing such luxury! I'm worried about Charlotte-san's monetary senses!"

"I disagree! Rather than being worried about saving bits and pieces, it is better to just do your best to increase your income desu wa!"

For some reason, three girls are having a lively conversation about monetary senses in the adventurer guild.

"Increase the income, and also decrease the expense. That's the secret for saving money. The household account book cannot be left to Charlotte who says just earn more than spending. You'll not be a good bride"

"My aim is to be the strongest adventurer. I do not care about being a good bride desu wa"

"Eh~. I want to be both bride and adventurer. Okaa-san, did both very well"

"L-Laura-san is my bride?!"

"I did not say that! How can you hear that wrong!"

Charlotte drooped and was extremely disappointed.

Even though she knows that both girls couldn't be married.

What was she thinking about.

"Ha!! Maybe, Charlotte-san, are you a person with suspicious hobbies?!"

"T-That's not true! It's just... if Laura-san became the bride of someone else... it means that Laura-san would not be my hugging pillow anymore..."

"We're you planning on making me your hugging pillow forever?!"

"Stop saying stupid things, you should hurry up and register as an adventurer. The reception is open right now"

Being pointed out by Anna, Laura finally remembered her goal in the first place.

That's right, I am not Charlotte's hugging pillow, I am a girl aspiring of becoming an adventurer.

"Excuse me~. I want to be an adventurer!"

"Well, what a cute aspiring adventurer-san. Then, after you write your name here, press your thumbprint here okay. If you cannot write, I can write instead?"

"It's okay, I can write!"

"You're great even though you're small \sim "

To Laura who could write her own name smoothly, the receptionist lady was impressed.

Reading and writing letters, were taught by Father and Mother when I was little.

The most important for an adventurer is his strength, but it doesn't mean that it's better off to be stupid.

In the first place, if you cannot read, you cannot even read the contents of the quest in

the bulletin board.

"Laura Edmonds, huh. Then, just wait for a minute. I will make your adventurer plate" "Yes \sim "

After waiting for five minutes, the receptionist lady came back with a small metal plate.

It was engraved there, [Laura Edmonds][G-Rank].

"If you show this, you can receive quests from wherever adventurer guild in the world. It takes fee to re-issue it, so be careful not to lose it okay"

"I understand. Thank you very much!"

With this, Laura was also an adventurer.

She had only registered, but she was still happy for it, and ran towards Charlotte and Anna while gripping her adventurer plate.

"Take a look! Ja~n!"

"Registration, congrats"

"We are all adventurers with this huh. Well then, what should we go hunt?"

"I recommend one-horned rabbit. Its meat and horn sell high"

"Even if it was expensive, it is not good if it was not tough desu wa. Is a dragon somewhere around?"

"If a dragon appears near the royal capital it would be a huge uproar. Also, it is too early for us to fight a dragon"

Dragons are the strongest monsters.

Even a country bumpkin knows about that.

A party that defeats a dragon can sell their name at once, and people who defeat them alone are treated the same level as an A-Rank.

Anna and Charlotte are the strongest ones as a student, but it is still too early to fight

a dragon.

"Well, if Laura was serious, it would be different"

"Relying on Laura-san would not be a training!"

"I also don't want to fight a dragon~"

"Really? I think that Laura can win easily"

"Yes. If it was Laura-san, she would surely win... it's frustrating desu wa!"

Charlotte inflated her cheeks and sulk. Cute.

But, can Laura really win against a dragon?

She heard from her parents how strong the dragon was, and it was also shown in picture books.

To Laura, dragons had an image that it was a monster that can finally be defeated after intense trainings.

But, Emilia who was the homeroom teacher of Laura became A-Rank with the achievement of defeating a dragon alone.

Laura defeated that Emilia one on one.

Then, maybe Laura can defeat a dragon.

Well, there's no way that a dragon was near the royal capital, and even if there was, it would already have a subjugation team so there was no way of testing it.

(If I really can defeat it, maybe I want to try...?)

She only thought of that for a short time.

"It's an emergency! A Leviathan appeared on the downstream of the river! My allies are fighting it... someone please help...!"

Suddenly, a man jumped inside the guild, and after shouting with a loud voice, he collapsed just like that.

"Leviathan you say?!"

"A sub-species of dragon that lives in waters. It is rumored that it is cooler than a dragon"

"I want to see it, I super want to see it!"

Laura and the girls saw each other's faces, and nodded *Kokuri*.

If there was a grown up that saw those three, they were probably scolded"You can't go to a dangerous place with only just you kids", but for good or for bad, the guild was in the middle of the uproar from the impact of the word Leviathan.

CHAPTER 23

Stuffed Toy Rangers, PajaRangers desu!

The man who ran into the guild was a member of the [Crimson Shield].

The Crimson Shield was made up of 3 B-Rank adventurers and 5 C-Rank adventurers, and they were a strong party in the royal capital's area.

Their success rate for monster subjugation quests is a surprising 100%.

They had the absolute trust from the guild.

And today, to subjugate the horde of the [Four-scissored Crab] that had an excessive growth, they went towards the downstream of the wide river that flows near the royal capital, the [Mezel River].

The Crimson Shield was steadily defeating the four-scissored crabs, but suddenly, a huge shadow appeared from the water surface.

It was the Leviathan that should've been in the sea.

Leviathan is a sub-species of dragons.

It was inferior to real dragons, but it wasn't a monster that could be challenged without preparation.

But, the Crimson Shield could only fight.

If they ran away, they would be attacked from behind, and above all, if they wouldn't stop the Leviathan at its feet, casualties will rise in the near villages or the royal capital.

"Please... my comrades should still be fighting... reinforcements..."

The man used up all his last strength to let out his voice.

He had probably used leg strengthening magic, run here with all his strength, so he exhausted all his stamina and magic powers.

"Please don't worry. We will issue an emergency quest right away. We will surely save your comrades"

One receptionist lady hugs up the man.

And with that, the man had a face of relief, and finally lost his consciousness.

But, even if they issue a quest right now, it would not be in time after organizing adventurers and sending them.

It is possible to subjugate the Leviathan, but his comrades are...

"If you are planning to save the Crimson Shield, you should hurry. If we run in full strength, we might make it"

"Please wait for a minute. There is the school rule that we cannot fight monsters higher than D-Rank. Leviathan is B+. We would be suspended if we are found out"

"But, lives are depending on it"

That's right. It would be hard to be suspended, but it is more difficult if people die.

Maybe at least Laura should go.

Surely, to the place that the man was saying, she would reach it for five minutes if she used leg strengthening magic.

If it was defeated it quickly, and returned quickly, it would surely not going to be found out by the school.

(No, rather than that, I have a better idea!)

What's inside the paper bag that they were holding, was really the strongest equipment to overcome this situation.

"It is just exactly on the way, so let's go to the dormitory! Let's go get Anna-san's pajama!"

"Pajama...? Laura-san, don't tell me..."

"Yes. We are... going to transform desu!"



The Crimson Shield was on the verge of annihilation.

It was a miracle that everyone was still alive.

"Don't give up! Help would come for sure... we only need to endure until then!"

The leader who was a B-Rank swordsman shouted, and parries away the impending fang of the Leviathan.

Thanks to the arm strength strengthening and defense power strengthening of the three magicians, he was able to barely support the front lines.

The injuries also, as long as it wasn't that deep, it could be healed at this place.

But, that was only until the three magician's magic power lasts.

Their magic powers, will soon disappear.

In that instance, it is the annihilation for the Crimson Shield.

(Damn it... after all, he didn't make it huh...)

He wasn't saying it, but the leader had given up.

That time.

"Leviathan-san! That is enough outrage desu!"

Three girls with stuffed toy appearance appeared.



Laura and the girls who changed to their pajama after returning to the dormitory, was sprinting downstream.

Naturally for Laura and Charlotte, Anna was also able to use muscle strengthening magic very well right now.

And with Laura as the forward, they were running up to this point while using the

slipstream.

Slipstream is, a spiral current of air that is created behind an object moving at high speed.

With this phenomenon, the air pressure behind Laura drops, pulls Charlotte and Anna, so they succeeded super speeds.

And somehow, they were able to reach the Crimson Shield while they were still alive.

"P-Please wait a minute, Laura-san. This appearance is embarrassing after all...!"

"I am not Laura right now. I am WanWan#1 desu! Right, Nyaa~#2-san"

Laura talks to Anna who was wearing a cat stuffed toy pajama.

"Right. I am right now, one of the [PajaRangers], Nyaa~#2. UsaUsa#3 shouldn't get embarrassed and be proud"

"Uu... why am I doing something like this... damage to the name of the House of Gazard is..."

Charlotte became teary eyed.

But she probably gave up, raised her head and glared the Leviathan.

The Leviathan had a long thin silhouette just like a snake.

Its size, as expected of a sub-species of dragons, it was huge.

Its open mouth could probably swallow three humans at once, and it was releasing tremendous pressure.

But Charlotte was not intimidated at all.

"In the first place, it was your fault appearing near the royal capital desu wa! What is it, did you came to eat the four-scissored crabs that increased? Ha! How sordid desu wa!"

"Leviathan that threatens the peace of the royal capital being blinded by crabs. Even if the heavens would forgive you, I will not" Anna followed Charlotte's lines.

And Laura shouted to finish it up.

"Invincible good friends trio. PajaRangers!"

They made a pose with the flow of their pace, *Chudo \sim n* an explosion behind them. It was a performance caused by Laura's magic powers.



The Crimson Shield was looking at them with astonished faces.

And even above that, the Leviathan was also petrified.

I wonder it they were mesmerized of how cool the stuffed toy rangers was.

"I will be the first one"

Anna took a stance with the sword that she carried over the stuffed toy, and slashes at the Leviathan.

But the blade couldn't pass through.

The scales of the Leviathan was hard, and it stopped even Anna's slashes in its surface.

"Nyaa~#2-san, it's dangerous!"

The Leviathan that blocked the slash, roared and tackles Anna by twisting its body like a whip.

Laura shot her magic powers, and casted defense magic to Anna.

Thanks to that, Anna was uninjured. She was only blown away.

"Then, I will be the next desu wa. Thy light---"

Charlotte took off the Pendant of Magic Sealing, and started to chant a spell.

"I will sacrifice my magic powers. Therefore, a contract. Crush my enemy---"

It was the magic arrows that she showed on the first day of school.

But, the magic powers that were infused in it, had increased by stages compared to that time.

It was the proof of her continuous effort every day.

But, the opponent is the sub-species of dragons, Leviathan.

It was a bad decision to shoot magic to it head-on.

"GONNNNNNN!""

The Leviathan raised groaning voices.

With that, before the arrows of light hit it, it scattered like mist.

"Wha! My magic was dissolved?! Even if it was only a sub-species of dragons, a dragon is a dragon. It means it has the knowledge of magic huh... well then, how about this!"

Charlotte shot attack magic one next to the other.

She meant to attack it with the amount that dissolving it couldn't catch up.

But, even though she is a genius, between a 14 years old girl and Leviathan, the latter was one card better.

Most of the of the attack magic were dissolved, at least some of them hit, but it was blocked by its thick skin, and it couldn't do much of an effect.

"Khu!... it's a monster as it's rumors says desu wa...!"

Charlotte said frustratingly while breathing with her shoulders.

"FuFuFu. Then, it's my turn next!"

Laura moved one step forward, she made a daunting pose while smiling.

That instance, it looked like the Leviathan's eyes narrowed.

And its menace exploded up.

Until now, it seemed it was only playing with humans, but it couldn't afford to do that any longer.

It looks like it had seen through Laura's powers.

"GAAAOOONNNNNNNN" !"

It was a super low sound that shook the space itself.

At the same time, enormous magic powers spread from the Leviathan.

"This is... the Leviathan's spell?!"

"The river is frozen!"

Mezel River was no doubt a wide river, it had just enough width to fit a small village in it.

That Mezel River stopped flowing.

All was covered with ice that was pure white, even the temperature goes down.

The exhaled breath was white.

And the frozen river upsurged, and made the shape of a few pillars.

"Don't tell me, it's going to hit us with that ice pillar?"

Anna mumbled while she adjusts her sword stance.

Each one of the pillars was far larger than Anna.

It would probably be impossible to block it with a sword.

"It is coming!"

"It's okay, I will make a defense barrier!"

Laura constructed an enormous defense barrier that enveloped themselves, and the Crimson Shield that was further.

Ten, twenty of the ice pillars that was created by the Leviathan's magic powers flies to them, but all of them were blocked by the barrier and shattered.

"And the star performer, it is my, WanWan#1 turn to attack! I learned ice magic with that right now \sim "

BekiBeki it sounded, all of the ice of the river floats in the air.

That stopped high up in the sky, shattered, reconstructed its shape, and became a horde of spears that aimed below.

It's numbers, about a thousand.

Its target was of course, the Leviathan.

"G000000000!!"

Together with Laura's signal, the thousand spear fell.

The Leviathan made the space tremble with its roar and destroys the spear of ice.

But, it could only shatter tens of them.

In front of the amount of a thousand, it was only a drop in the bucket.

Thus, it was pierced through unable to do anything, ripped apart, and chopped into pieces.

"GUAAAAN!"

It was the last cry of the Leviathan.

It burned out with that lastly, and threw its huge body to the ground.

It caused a shake like an earthquake, and stopped moving.

"I did it~, we won! Everyone of the Crimson Shield. Are you okay~?"

Laura waved her hands to the Crimson Shield.

"Y-Yeah... and then, who are you girls...?"

"We are animals that had just passed by, we are [PajaRangers]desu. It's not like we are students of the Gyrdorea Adventurer School you know. Not at all! Well then, goodbye desu!"

"Ah, Laura-san, please wait for a minute!"

"It wouldn't be bad even if we received at least one bar of gold from the Crimson Shield though..."

They should escape before their identity was found out.

They once again accelerated with slipstream, and aimed for the royal capital.

That being said, it was really fun today.

Shopping with friends, registering as an adventurer, and defeating Leviathans.

It was a shame that the last one couldn't be bragged to anyone, but the Crimson Shield were saved.

It should be okay with that.

CHAPTER 24

EMILIA-SENSEI IS A GREAT DETECTIVE DESU

Charlotte couldn't sleep.

Although Laura and herself was enveloped by the very cute stuffed toy pajama, and was on the top of her happiness.

Inside of her head was full of Laura's fierce attacks that defeated the Leviathan.

"Funya~... strawberry parfait so delicious..."

The owner of that innocent sleep talk.

Compared to the same age, Laura who had an unreliable face.

She defeated in an instant the Leviathan that even one of the strongest party in the royal capital [Crimson Shield] couldn't defeat.

There was no need to be surprised already.

I knew that she had at least that kind of power.

But the problem was, Charlotte couldn't be a match against the Leviathan.

Immediately after being confronted by that fact, it was Laura being unrivaled.

The gap between their powers were too huge.

Emilia had been hit with a more intense form, but even though, she still stood up.

But I wonder if I can do that?

No. What's with that way of thinking.

It is not about standing up. It is winning. I will win against Laura Edmonds.

But, when? How?

"Challenging her, would be at the end of the school semester... in the tournament before summer. How to do it, is..."

The way is already decided.

Effort and guts.

Charlotte became stronger with that.

I do not know any other way than that.

I will only raise its pureness.

Can I really catch up with that?

Whatever. Nothing would happen doubting myself before it had started.

Just simply, train until I break and scatter.

It is not enough just looking up.

Catch up, grab on, exceed.

That at least should be done, or else I would not even reach Laura's feet.

Even though she is this close, I can feel her so far away.

I hate that.

Although we are friends. Although I want us to be friends forever.

It is because we are friends that I want to stand shoulder to shoulder with her.

Regardless of that, Laura is getting stronger and stronger.

Even though there was a gap from the start, it was only opening one-sidedly.

"But, I will catch up to you soon. You should not worry about it and charge forth. I would not let you alone"

I was quite reasonable until now.

Training that keeps reason, are not enough at all.

From now on, I need to do it with the intention of losing my reason.

Especially immediately before the tournament, I will prepare at least to stop being a human.

"It is because that I really like you, that I will defeat you, Laura-san"



There are seven days in a week.

And five days of them are days with classes, and the two days left are rest days.

And Laura decided to use the second rest day to study lectures.

After all, she did not know most of the things that are taught in lectures.

It was difficult to keep up with the class.

I went shopping yesterday with everyone and defeated Leviathan, so I should at least use today to study.

(If Charlotte-san was here, I could ask her the thinks that I don't understand...)

Charlotte who could be relied on was also training today.

I wonder what kind of training she is doing.

She wouldn't teach me even if I asked.

If it was possible, it should be better to train together.

But unfortunately, Laura did not know the feeling of 'the magic cannot be used without training'.

(In reality, everyone, I wonder what they think of me?)

Enemy? Rival? Monster? Does not matter?

(It's a little scary, I can't ask...) I can at least imagine that they don't feel calm within them. But, I had intended, to at least be inconspicuous. But yesterday, defeating the Leviathan was... I think that I horsed around too much. I should be more careful. Laura had that resolution "Laura, are you there?" When I was reading the textbook while lying on the bed, there was a knock on the door. "Anna-san?" When I opened it, there was Anna who was wearing stuffed toy pajama. "I'm free so I came to play" "Oh∼, come in come in" Laura who was happy having an excuse to skip studying. "By the way, why are you in pajamas during noon time?" "I should have told you that I only have the uniform and this as clothes"

"...when are you washing them?"

"I wash them once every three days properly. And I ask for a Magic Department person to cast warm air. It would dry up with that in an instant"

"I see... "

It was Anna's Formula's wisdom.

It seems like Laura would not have the chance to test it.

"By the way, we are the topic within the school"

"He?"

"PajaRangers"

"Ahh... but, they haven't found out that their identity was us right?"

"For now. Mysterious stuffed toy trio, saving the Crimson Shield who was being attacked by Leviathan. To their identities, places like cafeteria and training grounds are in a storm of debates"

"Fufufu... they would never think that we were the ones inside the stuffed toy!"

"Right. It was the perfect disguise"

Laura and Anna nodded very contentedly.

And there, there was a surprising person who came.

It was the instructor in the Magic Department, Emilia.

"Ahh, there you are. Ne~Laura-san, Anna-san. And also... Charlotte-san isn't here huh"

"Charlotte-san is training somewhere \sim "

"I just thought of that. Yesterday, Charlotte-san also trained alone?

"No. We played with the three of us yesterday!"

"Is that so... by the way, did you hear about the Leviathan yesterday?"

"Yes! The mysterious stuffed toy trio, saved the Crimson Shield right! I wonder what kind of trio they are, I am really curious!"

That was a great performance for me, Laura praised herself.

With this, she should be completely tricked.

"The trio who names their selves as PajaRangers, it seems like they had the appearance of a dog, a cat, and a rabbit. And, Anna-san. You, you're wearing a cat stuffed toy"

"W-What a coincidence" Anna who was pointed that out, let out a rarely panicked voice. "And also, on top of the bed, there's a dog and rabbit stuffed toy" "C-Coincidences really happen huh!" Laura had a cold sweat. But, there still should be ways to trick her. I used my brain in full rotation. "...I just want to ask for future references, you two, did you seriously think it wouldn't be found out? I mean, were you really trying to hide it?" Emilia said with a sigh. "I-I do not know what you are talking about... Emilia-sensei~what are you doubting about..." "Dunno, dunno" "You two, your eyes are all over the place. Look at me properly!" Emilia said with a strong tone. *Bikuri*, Laura and Anna trembled. This is, maybe, she found out from the start? What a reasoning power.

As expected of an A-Rank Adventurer.

Laura was felt in horror.

"You know that there's a school rule that you shouldn't fight monsters higher than D-Rank right?"

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"Yes..."
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"The Leviathan's rank is?"

"It is B+ desu..."

Laura looked down, she gave up and just answered what she was asked. Anna also, had a face dripping with sweat.

"Haaa ~ ... well, if you girls did not go after them the Crimson Shield would've probably been annihilated, and I know that you have enough powers to fight Leviathan, but. You should at least have efforts to hide it. As an instructor, being done a very blatant school violation is not easy to accept. I will let you by with the cuteness of the stuffed toy this time, but next time, do it that you wouldn't be found out. I'm counting on you, really"

After saying that as if to beg, Emilia patted the two's head then left the room.

Patan, when the doors closed, Laura and Anna let out a very deep sigh.

"We had been scolded"

"Un. We had"

"She told us to not get found out the next time"

"It means, silence all the witnesses?"

"Hiee \sim ... Emilia-sensei is a very scary person desu!"

"*BuruBuru*"

Laura and Anna hugged each other trembling.

The path of becoming an adventurer is very harsh.

CHAPTER 25 GATE OF ABYSS

There is no adventurer of the Falleon Kingdom that does not know the name of the House of Gazard.

From generations to generations, it was a House that produces 'excellent' magicians.

But, from only a hundred, tens of years before, Gazard was synonymous with the name of 'strongest' magician.

But because of that 'Great Sage', they fell from the top.

Great Sage, Calrotte Gyrdorea, in the history of humans, was the largest, strongest magician.

There was no one who would disagree with that, and there was no one left to challenge her.

That is right, no one challenges.

They are only looking up. And because they could not see her whole look even if they tilted their head to their best, so they would give up. That, has nothing to do with us. They trick themselves, that the field they were standing was different.

Even the House of Gazard who was the strongest, just like the mediocre magicians, continued to look away from Calrotte Gyrdorea.

Charlotte could not stand that ever since.

She was told the stories of how great her ancestors were from her parents.

Creating many new theories for magic, discovered ancient ruins, even advised the king, and became the trump card for wars.

Even though they joyfully tell epics of those ancestors, the current situation was only an embarrassment.

Great ancestors?

Yeah, so?

Are you not embarrassed that you are left defeated by Great Sage.

Parents, brothers, grandfathers, and grandmothers, you do not have the qualification on using the name of the House of Gazard.

The former prestige, I will take it back myself.

I will defeat the Great Sage, Calrotte Gyrdorea.

While having that stale and childish dream that was common with children, Charlotte continued to do her best.

She immediately found out that her talents were excellent even within the House of Gazard.

It's possible. It's reachable. The Great Sage could be defeated.

Without doubting that, enrolled to the Gyrdorea Adventurer School---.

And met with a true genius.

Realizing that something like myself was a normal human.

The people you call geniuses are different living beings with normal humans.

Laura Edmonds. If she cannot defeat her, talking about the Great Sage would only be dreams within dreams.

"Very well. If the opponent was a monster, then my side should just stop being a human desu wa"

Without noticing, the thing about the House of Gazard stop mattering, and Charlotte as an individual wanted to chase after Laura.

I want to win against her. It is because we are friends that I cannot lose.

She thought, and prayed---and finally. When I thought I only entered school, there was only a half month left before the tournament within the school at the end of the

semester.

It was about time.

It is not the time for going to school.

From now, Charlotte would stop being a human and become an Oni.

"This is the House of Gazard's training grounds, the Gate of Abyss..."

Deep within the mountains, a solitary cave.

Its entrance was sealed by a steel gate.

They said that deep within, there was the spirit beast that the House of Gazard had controlled.

It was commanded to play with the intruders as soon as it saw them without killing them and letting them live, it was waiting for the people from the House of Gazard to come and train.

They said that it was not used for over a hundred years.

I stole the gate's key from our family house.

I also brought the secret medicine that can make someone move without sleep and rest.

(With one drop, I should be able to move for three days continuously...)

Before she opened the door, Charlotte swallowed a black pill.

In that instance, *Dokun*, my heart throbbed. My body had gotten hotter from within. It seems like my sight had also sharpened, strangely.

"This immediate effects... it is clearly a dangerous drug huh... if it wasn't like this it would be useless"

To reach my goals, I decided to not choose the means.

I will not hesitate.

Come now, let us open the gate.

In a hundred years span, a cave that no one had entered.

Into the keyhole that seals it, Charlotte inserted the key.

Gachari---.

It was finally unlocked.

And suddenly, without Charlotte pushing it, the gate opened by itself.

And from the darkness that spread from deep within, black arms had extended.

Numerous, numbers of them.

"W-What is it?"

Those had entangled with Charlotte's body, and while being tightened with an unbelievable force, she was pulled into the cave.

My bones screams. My skin would tear.

"Gu-u...!"

At this point, Charlotte was already wounded throughout her body.

Because of the pain, there was no leeway to use recovery magic.

But regardless of that, my wounds are healing.

The terrifying thing was, the black arms was destroying Charlotte while making her recover.

Play with them without killing them and letting them live---that was the commands by my ancestors.

I see, it is realistic.

"It is just what I want desu wa...! If I break through this trial, I will surely, against Laura-san..."

Enduring the pain that almost made her lose consciousness, Charlotte clenched her teeth and opened her eyes widely.

Red eyes within the darkness, were gleaming with light.

There was not only one or two. Tens... no, it exceeds the hundreds.

And just like that, a groaning voice that was out of this world echoed, and in a blink of an eye, Charlotte's body was---.

CHAPTER 26

I DO NOT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO IN THE FACULTY ROOM

"Emilia-sensei. Where Charlotte-san went to, do you still not know?"

Morning, before the classes start. Laura went to the faculty room, caught Emilia, and said the question that she had already said too many times.

And Emilia replied with the same answer as before.

"I don't know. Her parents were also worried about her, but... they already sent a search application to the guardsmen, and we will also do our best to find her, so Laurasan should focus on the class"

"Yes..."

There was a letter that was left in the dormitory room, written shortly, "I will going to train. Please do not find me".

At first, Laura had smiled that it was Charlotte-like, but after being away for three days, she couldn't help but to start worrying.

It was almost summer vacation. And before that, there was a tournament within the school.

The tournament within school was a fighting tournament that done by school years, and it was being held to check how much the students have grown.

But even so, there are about 80 people on each school year.

Doing a proper tournament will take a lot of days.

And because of that, dividing them in different blocks, and do a battle royale.

The one who one in the battle royale will be able to advance to the main fight of the tournament.

Swordsmen would use real swords, and students from the Magic Academy will cast magic seriously.

Therefore, it is assumed that there will be going to be injured people, so there are instructors who can use recovery magic standing by.

Also, when it is decided that there might be a fatality, the match is stopped immediately, and judge the winner by decision.

It had been half a century since the Gyrdorea Adventurer School was founded, but at the moment, there was no fatality produced by the tournament within the school.

So it is probably going to be fight this year too.

Students that are confident with their skills are looking forward to the tournament within the school.

That was the same for Laura and Anna.

Thinking of Charlotte's personality, she is probably training in some mountains to prepare for the tournament within the school.

So, there was no need to be worried very seriously, but... I'm worried after all.

Anna and I were also pretty much like that, but the way Charlotte push herself was extraordinary.

There was a lot of times when she trained until losing consciousness, and have been carried by Emilia to the room.

Charlotte who was like that, is it okay to leave her alone?

(But, Charlotte-san is much more of an adult than me, so she's doing it properly, right?)

I was so worried about it I couldn't concentrate during the class.

I was hit by Emilia on the head and had been laughed by classmates.



After school.

While Laura was exchanging swords with Anna at the training grounds, she complained.

"Is that so... Charlotte had not yet come back"

"Yes... I'm so worried, and... well, I think that she's going to come back before the tournament within the school, though"

Because there were chatting like that, it was not like they were exchanging hits seriously.

Although, both of them were not moving in the first year's level.

In fact, it was rare for a third-year student that can follow the two's movements. No, there might be none of them.

Compared to when Anna had just learned the muscle strengthening magic, she had improved greatly.

She was strengthened more than twice of her normal state.

And also, her defence magic had reached the level that it could be used recently, so she probably would not get a scratch even if she was hit by a bear.

To fight the current Anna, Laura could not help to use muscular strengthening magic too.

But if she used it with full force it would not be a fight, so she was keeping it equal to Anna's strength.

With this, Laura was able to do the training for swords and magic control at the same time.

"By the way, Laura. I have a suggestion"

"n? What is it∼?"

"You want to change the place? It's too narrow here, I can't swing my sword decently"

"...ahh, I see"

This training grounds can be used by anyone freely.

Therefore, other than Laura and Anna, there were tens of students.

Normally, even with that, it was wide enough to train, but Laura and Anna who was using muscle strengthening magic was not at the level of students.

If the two fight each other seriously, the students surrounding them would be caught within, and it would become something like murder grounds.

"It means, you want to do it seriously?"

"Un. In the tournament within the school, even if it was impossible with Laura, I want to win against Charlotte at least"

If Charlotte who was treated as only second was here, she would probably got enraged.

"I understand. Then, let's go to the grounds. It should be wide and open because they are resting clubs for the tournament!"

"I see, I didn't think of that"

Laura and Anna took their swords, and ran towards the school grounds with a trot.

I think that there was something that was very important rule, but I'll think of it later.

"Come now, let's start, Anna-san!"

"I'm going to do it with full power, so get ready"

In the grounds were no one was, the two made a stance with their swords face to face.

The first one who attacked was Anna.

To her speed from the start made Laura surprised.

With her leg powers that even tears the hard ground, Anna charged with a cloud of dust.

Her movement itself was simple, but her speed had exceeded what was expected.

Laura strengthened the durability of the sword and her own muscle powers, and was able to barely receive the attack from Anna.

"Y-You were not serious at all until now?!"

"There would be fatalities in the training grounds if I went seriously, so. But I believe that it would be okay if it was Laura. Then, I'll go faster, it's okay right"

"P-Please wait for a minute! Waaaaait!"

If we continued like this I would surely lose back.

But if I strengthened my muscles without limits, I would kill Anna.

I wanted to strengthen just the right level, but there's no leeway on adjusting.

"Ha!"

From the time since we met, the strongest side slash from Anna was released.

Laura could barely defend that.

The sword's alright. There might be a crack on my bones.

But I couldn't keep my feet standing firm.

Laura's small, light, 9-years-old body was, flying very high up to the sky like a kicked ball.

And she drew a parabola just like that, and crashed into the school building.

"Gyaaaaaaaaa!"

And the worst part of it was, it was the faculty room.

(Ah, but, it might be better out than the men's toilet)

While thinking like that, Laura break and scattered the faculty room's glass windows.

CHAPTER 27

It's not an enemy attack

The first year homeroom teacher of the Magic Department, Emilia Arkland is thinking inside the faculty room.

It's about the missing Charlotte.

She had told her parents that she disappeared from the dormitory, and the guards are also searching for her.

There was nothing more for Emilia to do.

But, Laura who was worried about her is pitiful, and for Emilia, she feels restless because she couldn't grasp the whereabouts of her student.

(There's no work that should be done immediately too, should I go find her)

Thinking like that, at that time.

She heard an intense metallic sound from outside the window.

"Oi oi, is someone fighting?"

"Goodness. Isn't it written in the school rules that don't fight in places other than the training grounds and arena"

"That's some nerve in front of the faculty room. You're looking down on instructors"

The Warrior Department instructors stood up at once.

The instructors of the Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School, they are all adventurers before without exceptions.

They are people who had always placed themselves in danger, so there are a lot of ill-bred compared to the common people.

(Especially teachers of the Warrior Department, how can I say this... their temper is really low)

It's the students that violate the school rules is the bad one for sure, but she felt sorry for them for a little.

If they were surrounded by those men with bad faces, if it was Emilia in her teens, she might've cried out.

"Gyaaaaaaaaaa!!"

A girl's scream approaches.

It was somehow, a voice that she had heard before.

(No, this, isn't it Laura-san's voice?!)

* $Gachi \sim n^*$, together with a very loud sound, a small girl broke through the glass and entered the faculty room.

The girl crashes through the tables and chairs, scattered the documents, plunged into the steel locker, and finally stopped.

There's no doubt. It was Emilia's student, it's Laura.

"An enemy attackkk?!!"

An instructor shouted.

He who misidentified Laura who had the momentum like a bombardment as an enemy attack cannot be blamed.

Even Emilia, if she did not recognize Laura's voice beforehand, she would've probably thought the same.

At least, she probably didn't imagine that it was students fighting outside the winder.

"Magicians, use defense magic! Prepare that you can use recovery magic anytime!"

"Who the hell is it!! Doing this to the Great Sage's Gyrdorea Adventurer School, don't think you can go home alive you octopus!!"

"It's not half-kill, it's all-kill!! I'll teach you who the hell you sold a fight to!!!!!"

All of the instructors, their faces returned to when they were still adventurers.

The instructors here, all of them are A-Rank and B-Rank strong.

Those people are releasing their killing intents, and they're ready to fight.

Even Emilia who was already an adult, was almost crying.

"U-Uhm, dear teachers. This isn't an enemy attack, uhm... it looks like it's something a student did..."

"Ahn? Emilia-sensei. What are you saying. Even if it was our students, someone who has the nerves to pick a fight in the faculty room..."

The instructor who was saying that, gazed at Laura who was stretching on the floor. And, he made a face, 'Ahh, this one huh'.

"Emilia-sensei! Please teach your student properly. This is unprecedented!"

The Warrior Department's first year's homeroom teacher preached.

"But... the other one is from the Warrior Department, look" "Eh?"

Looking through the broken glass outside, there was Anna who was taking a peek.

"A-Anna youuuu waaaaaaaaait!!!"

"Help, help..."

Anna ran away with all of her strength.

She can't be blamed.

This faculty room is too scary. It is more dangerous than the dragon's nest while it's raising its puppy.

But that being said, even if she was successful in running away, they know that she's the culprit.

Will she get scolded here, or will she get scolded later, it's only that difference.

"Ouch~..."

Laura let out a carefree voice and stood up.

It looks like she doesn't understand what kind of situation she was in.

But she realized that she was being glared at by all of the instructors in the faculty room after a few instants, and her face whitens in an instant.

"Uhm, e~to, uhm...."

"Oi, Laura Edmonds. You, even though you're small, you have some nerves huh oi"

This is bad. All of the instructors, they have lost the consciousness that they are educators.

They are being adventurers whose party's face was stepped on.

They wouldn't kill their student, but maybe they would at least half-kill her.

If that happens, Laura would probably resist.

The instructors of the Royal Gyrdorea Adventurer School VS Laura Edmonds.

It that happens, the school would disappear from the map.

No, at worst, the royal capital's shape would change.

By Emilia taking the lead to give a punishment, she tries to somehow go through this situation.

"Laura-san, what did you do! This time after all, I won't forgive you okay!"

"Emilia-sensei, I'm very sorry, I didn't think that it would be like that!! Aaaaaaaahhh, it hurts, it hurtssss, I'm sorryyyyyyy!!"



With this, somehow, slapping her butt and cleaning the faculty room, and with ten remorse sheets, somehow, she succeeded to evade it.

But, who knows what fate happened to Anna who had run away.

She's in a different department, so Emilia could not cover up for her.

At least half-killed... no, I hope that she's forgiven being killed around 70%, she prayed.

And the next day. Anna who was witnessed at the school, had a very, very big bump on her head.

Thank god she's let away with only that, Emilia got a deep sigh of relief.

CHAPTER 28

THE PRELIMINARIES STARTS

The tournament within the school is held between each school year.

It is impossible for all three school years to be held in one same day, so it would follow a three day schedule.

The location will be at the circular arena inside the school grounds.

And, tomorrow will finally be the first day of the tournament.

It is the day when the strongest first year is decided.

"Hello, everyone. This is the block table for tomorrow's preliminaries. It's a battle royale where Warrior Department and Magic Department is mixed together. So the trick on winning, is to defend rather than to attack. You should place yourself not to lose"

Inside the first year's classroom of the Magic Department, Emilia pasted huge paper to the blackboard.

There are 82 students in the first year with the two departments combined.

And they are divided into 8 blocks, and do a battle royale.

The only winning 8, will be able to enter the main part of the tournament.

"...a-re? Emilia-sensei. My name's not on it!"

Laura stared intently at the block table, but her name wasn't anywhere.

The student's number was only 81.

"Laura-san is, seeded. You should only fight during the tournament's finale"

"Ehhhh?! Why~, why~! I also want to fight with everyone!"

"Please bear with it. If Laura-san competed normally, the students that might reach

to the top will steadily drop after all..."

When Emilia said that apologetically, all of her classmates nodded at once.

"Laura-chan. Please bear with it okay. Just being sure that we will not have a contest with you until the finals, the relief is very different"

"That's right. With this, we also have a chance"

"Well, even if final bout is impossible, there's the hope for at least reaching the main tournament"

Her classmates had bonded strongly.

'Gununu', Laura groaned, but she understands what everyone was saying.

In reality, Laura wasn't planning on losing at all.

"I understand... being on seed is okay. By the way, what will Charlotte-san do? She also didn't come today. If she also won't come tomorrow..."

"Charlotte-san is in the 8th block. If she doesn't come until that battle royale, she's disqualified"

"No way..."

A half month since Charlotte went missing.

Her whereabouts is still unknown.

Inside the school, the theory of her death is being rumored.

Of course, Laura doesn't think at all that Charlotte had died.

She was only having a secret training for tomorrow's tournament.

But, even how much she train for, there's no meaning if she doesn't make it.

"It's okay, Laura-san. Charlotte-san would come, for sure. There's no one who has more insatiable thirst for winning than that girl after all..."

"...I agree"

It looks like Emilia was believing on Charlotte.

Laura was also believing.

Training herself until the last minute, she would appear so strong that Laura would be surprised.

If it wasn't like that, I can't forgive her.

Making us worried this much, yet she wouldn't make it on time, that is not worthy of Charlotte Gazard.

The light attack magic that she showed Laura at the first day of school.

That was the one, the first instance, that Laura thought that magic is cool in her whole life.

That shine, once again.

This time, on the fighting ground---.



The Gyrdorea Adventurer School's arena is decently large scale, and there is still plenty of room even after all of the school's students enter the audience.

So, during the tournament within the school, it is released to the public, and residents with free time, or relatives of the students comes to watch.

If they leave a good grade here, it is also possible that they would be scouted by a dominant party after their graduation, so the third years are desperate.

Although, for the first years that had just entered the school, they only feel like it's a festival.

"Uwa~... people this much would come and see huh~"

Laura who was on stand by around the ring, looked up at the audience and was impressed.

"Maybe at least a thousand"

Anna also seems to be surprised.

Thinking that she would have a match in front of this much people, she got nervous.

But how can you say this, in this world, it seems like there are a lot of people who have their free time.

Well, entrance is free, and there are the instructors protecting the audience with defense barrier so there is also no danger.

The common person would be able to see the sword techniques and various magic that they couldn't see usually unfolded before their eyes, so it's a high quality level for an entertainment.

"By the way, Charlotte didn't come after all?"

"Yes... she's in the 8th block, so there's still time, but..."

Even though I was sure that she would be coming home on the morning of the actual day, but Charlotte is still not showing even now.

Really, what is she planning to do.

While Laura was being restless, the battle royale of the 1st block had started.

10 students comes up on the top of the ring, and using swords and spears, bow and arrows and magic, they will fight until only one is remaining.

Between students, there is not that much of a gap between skills.

On top of that, the flow of the bout would change rapidly because it's a skirmish.

It would probably take time---at the next instance when Laura thought of that, the balance got broken at once, and the only one remains was the axe user boy.

Even though the other students got blown out by the large-scale explosion magic that the magician desperately used, he was the only one standing in the ring even though he had some burns.

"Everyone, please take your time and fight ~... I mean, Charlotte-san, hurry up and come!"

Laura even thought of disguising herself and compete as Charlotte, but however you looked at it, her height isn't enough, so she only had to give up.



During the period of the tournament within the school, anyone can enter the audience of the arena.

Then, to look at how much their child has grown up, it is a normal flow for their family to come and see.

And for this day, there are also people who go out of their way to come from outside of the royal capital.

Dora Edmonds was also one of them.

In fact, her husband Bruno also wanted to come, but since monsters emerged near the town, it was suddenly canceled.

He was so disappointed that he even cried, but it can't be helped.

With my husband's part, I should cheer at my daughter.

"Even so, I wonder when will Laura appear. I'm looking forward to how much she's gotten stronger~"

Laura was trained so much by her father before entering school.

The students of the same year might be no match for her.

She would surely win with an easy victory.

And while thinking using a thought process of a doting parent, Dora watched the battle royal that was being held on the top of the ring.

Dora completely believes that her daughter had learned the sword in the Warrior Department.

After all, it was her own daughter.

She was sure that she would become the school year's top with overwhelming strength, and even become a threat against higher years.

Showing a magic aptitude number of all 9999, and enter the Magic Department, not the higher year but even defeated an instructor, those things was in the outside world of her imaginations.



"Hakkushun!"

Although she doesn't have a cold, Laura made a huge sneeze.

"What, what's with that cute sneeze"

"Fue~... is someone making rumors of me?"

"Laura is famous, it's possible"

"I'm, not good at getting attention..."

"Eh... a shocking truth... !!"

Anna widened her eyes and almost popped out.

What is she saying about a shocking truth.

Even like this, Laura had spent days of holding back.

"Next is 7th block. My turn. I'll try to make it long as much as possible"

"Please do, Anna-san! Please do your best!"

Anna made a thumbs up, and came up to the ring.

If the 7th block ends, it would be Charlotte's turn.

If she doesn't appear until then, she is immediately disqualified.

'Please make it on time', Laura prayed.

CHAPTER 29

A FLASHY ENTRANCE DESU

In the 7th block, including Anna, there are three swordsmen. One spearman. One axeman. And five magicians.

In these then, only one can advance to the main tournament.

I am the strongest within the ten of us, Anna concluded.

If it was a one on one fight, I'm going to win for sure.

However, this is a battle royale.

No one knows what would happen in a skirmish.

In fact, even before it had started, there was an unrest in their air.

For some reason, every one of them was looking at Anna.

(This, is it...)

I'm being targeted.

Anna guessed, and together with the starting cue of the match, it changed to conviction.

The four who was from the Warrior Department attacked Anna at once. The five who was from the Magic Department used boost magic towards them.

'Let's start the battle royale anew after the strongest, Anna, has dropped out', they probably had planned before the start of the match.

But, they made her tell with how they looked.

While being grateful of that stupidity, Anna ran straight forward, and attacked the spearman that was in front of her.

"What!!"

Within the situation where everyone in the battle royale had become her enemy, Anna got flustered---her opponents probably thought of that, but it's too bad for them, she was ready before it had started.

And because of that, their side was the one who got flustered.

Parrying the spear of the spearman that was on panic with her sword, she hit with a tackle and shove towards the outside of the ring.

With this, Anna had escaped the encirclement.

She immediately turned around, and made a jump kick towards the head of the axeman. It was defeated with one blow.

"Ku! As expected of Anna! But, it's still 7 vs 1!!"

Two of the swordsmen slashes at Anna from her left and right at the same time.

But, compared to Laura's movements who she had always fought, it was too slow that she could make a yawn

With one sword, she drove back their two swords with ease.

However, Anna's feet had stopped in an instant.

Waiting for that instant, the five magicians shot flame magic at the same time.

It was clear that they intended of getting the two swordsmen caught up on it.

It looks like the united front, it was nullified within the magicians.

Anna made a sweep and broke the balance of the pitiful swordsmen with her feet, and left them in the middle of herself and the flame magic.

The five balls of fire that were shot, it hits the arena grounds and the swordsmen.

A crimson fire pillar raises.

The swordsmen who had their body in flames ran towards the outside of the ring while raising screams.

And then, the instructors immediately extinguished them with water magic, and casted recovery magic in addition.

Looking that at the side, Anna ran with zigzags, and charged towards the magician.

"S-So fast!"

Shouting that was the most what the magician was able to do.

Far from being able to aim at her, they couldn't even chase her with their eyes.

Anna's use of the muscle strengthening magic at full force.

Full swing with the large sword she holds with both of her hands.

With the length of the sword, four out of the five magicians were blown away.

They flew in the sky, and dives towards the audience seats.

But in front of the audience seats, the defense barrier that the instructors created were existing as an invisible wall.

The magicians, they collided with that invisible wall, bounced back and fell to the ground.

They probably had broken a few of their ribs, and also, maybe their organs might've been damaged.

But, the instructors of the Gyrdorea Adventurer Schools are excellent, so they would probably heal them without aftereffects that would remain.

Well then, only one remaining.

(Dodging all of his attacks, if I can buy time until Charlotte returns...)

When Anna was thinking of that.

"I-I give up!"

"Eh?"

Anna's opponent that became in a 1 vs 1 situation with her had blood run out of his face, gave up and went outside of the ring on his own.

"Winner, from the Warrior Department, Anna Arnett!"

An announce that was amplified by magic flows in the arena.

'Waaa', cheers rose up.

The audience were praising Anna's fight.

"...it shouldn't be like this"

I even promised Laura to make the match long.

The opponents were weaker than I thought, so it ended in an instant.

Anna felt bad, and went down the ring while her head was down.

But Laura hugged her with a smile.

"Anna-san, you're amazing! To think that you'd make a reversal in a 9 vs 1 situation!" "T-Thanks... but, Charlotte is still..."

Too bad, I had no leeway on prolonging the match time.

There's no more time.

Even so, that Ojou-sama with golden hair rolls' appearance couldn't be seen anywhere.

"It's too bad..."

Laura whispered as if it was for herself.

And the announce that calls the students of the 8th block flows.

With faces that they couldn't help waiting, the students went up the ring.

The 8th block has 11 people.

But there was only 10 of them.

"Charlotte-san. Charlotte Gazard-san. Within ten seconds, if you would not come up to the ring you would be disqualified"

The merciless countdown started.

There was no way for a person who was not here, could be able to go up the stage within ten seconds.

"Three, two, one..."

And, 'disqualified', in the blink of an eye that that was decided.

"I have kept you waiting!"

A human fell from the sky.

With her golden hair fluttering, she raised a gust of wind, and while making all of the people who were in the arena stunned, one person descended to the middle of the ring.

(She flew...?)

She could only think of it like that.

But, flight magic is a high-level technique even in the special magics. That much, even Anna who was from the Warrior Department knew.

That, if it wasn't magicians whose level were not enough to become a Gyrdorea School instructor, she had heard that they cannot use.

"...Laura failed using flight magic once before, but, can you fly now?"

"No... I have no confidence..."

In the timing where she absolutely would not be on time, Charlotte had the best, flashy entrance.

Looking at her standing on the ring while having a fearless smile, being worried up until now felt so stupid.

The battle royale had started.

And of course, it was Charlotte's overwhelming win.

CHAPTER 30

LET US ENGAGE

All of the preliminaries of the eight blocks have finished, and the students that have lost moves to the infirmary or the audience seats.

And the 8 people who remained and Laura who was seeded remained.

"Charlotte-san, Charlotte-san!"

To the reunion with her roommate for half a month, Laura hugs.

"Ara, Laura-san. You are very cheerful today"

"Because, because. Charlotte-san was able to be in time in the preliminaries! Really, where have you been up until now? I was very worried you know"

"I am sorry. I was had secluded to a hole just like secluding in the mountains"

"It's very Charlotte-san-ish!"

I had thought that that was about it, but hearing it properly in person is very appalling. For sure, she was only training only except eating and sleeping.

"Charlotte, congratulations on passing the preliminaries"

"Anna-san. Thank you very much. So that earlier was the preliminaries huh. The fight suddenly started when I came, so I was thinking what it was"

To Charlotte's words, Laura and Anna faced each other.

That's right. Since Charlotte wasn't here up until now, forget about the block entries, she doesn't even know about the preliminaries' rules.

"Charlotte-san! That's bad, you should at least return on the day before. You were going to be disqualified if you were late even for a second!"

"Eh, was that so?!"

Laura and Anna, explained today's rules simply.

"I see... meaning, the tournament would be held for the remaining eight, and the person who wins through will be able to fight Laura-san. It is nice since it is an easy story"

"I'll just say this, the one who will fight with Laura in the finals will be me"

Anna narrows her eyes and glared at Charlotte.

The two gets along with each other, but when it comes to fighting, both of them have personalities that don't step back.

And before the actual battle begins, the battle outside the ring has begun.

And that, Laura was looking on pins and needles.

Charlotte didn't get provoked, and looked at Anna with a pleasant sweet smile.

There was a tremendous leeway there.

"Uu"

Anna groaned, and took a step backward.

"I am very sorry, Anna-san. Right now, I am only thinking of defeating Laura-san. Is this conceited?"

And Charlotte turned her sight to Laura.

Zokuri, her hair stood its ends.

She was really Charlotte Gazard, but I could see her as a different living creature.

"...Charlotte-san. How much training did you do"

"That is a secret. But, in this half month, I have the confidence that I really did my best"

'Her best', however you think about it, those words are only with humbleness.

She surely had done things unimaginable.

If not, her presence would not change this much within half a month.

"I'm looking forward to it. But, Anna-san also had gotten stronger"

"I am sure that she had. However, I am the one who will win"

It was neither bragging, nor intimidation.

Natural things naturally. That's right, she said that as if talking about the weather.

"...no one knows until the fight happens"

Anna whispered as if to squeeze that out.

But it is clear from the side the difference of their dimensions.

The differences between them was not this much before.

It isn't good for Anna, but today's tournament, it would not end peacefully.

Charlotte would single-handedly win and be against Laura.

It should be like that.

Just like how Charlotte was only thinking of defeating Laura, Laura also, she could only think of engaging Charlotte anymore.

CHAPTER 31 CHARLOTTE VS ANNA

An extreme seed position, where Laura Edmonds could only participate during the finals.

Because of that, the semi-finals that should have been twice, it became only once.

Anna won up to the semi-finals.

And the opponent that she collides to is, of course, Charlotte.

Both of them, defeated their opponents in a few seconds.

Because of that, the tournament had advanced with a surprising pace.

And both of them wasn't showing their serious.

Especially Charlotte, she only hits them with Arrows of Light, or pushing the opponent outside the ring using gusts of winds, she had only fought using basic magic.

But, the techniques that she learned after secluding in the mountains, shouldn't be as simple like that.

In the first place, she was flying when she appeared in the arena.

If she does that in the match, she literally would not be able to reach her.

"Thinking about it, it is the first time that I would fight with Anna-san"

Charlotte's face when I came up to the ring, still had a very composed smile.

I want to break that at least.

"That is because Charlotte is always training by herself"

"I see, that is true. Well then, this is a good opportunity, so please let me see the sharpness of the sword coming from a first-class swordsman. The other swordsmen that I fought today, they have did not have any crisp"

"I might be so crispy, that your teeth would break"

"Oh, I am looking forward to that"

The drums signaling the start of the match was hit.

Anna waits for how Charlotte would come---or not.

In the first place, it is a disadvantage for a warrior to take a distance from a magician.

Using their physical strength they would close the distance, attack, attack, and attack, and not let their opponent a chance to activate their magic.

I learned from the class that that is the basic fighting against a magician.

But, it wouldn't have an effect to Charlotte right now.

"You are unexpectedly fast huh. I am surprised. I was really planning to end it in an instant with a counterattack though"

My sword was stopped with bare hands. And even with one hand.

Most probably, she enveloped the palm of her hand with defense magic, and received the weight of the slash using muscle strengthening magic.

But, activating two magic at the same time should use concentration.

Anna charged at the same time with the start of the match.

I shouldn't have let her any chance to concentrate.

No, it's more of a shock that she had seen through my blade.

Up until now, other than the instructors and Laura, no one had been able to keep up with it.

"Anna-san. You should not be absent-minded during a fight you know"
"?!!"

Charlotte's open hand, she touches her stomach.

Anna instinctively, changed her poor magic powers from muscle strengthening magic to defense magic, and protected her stomach.

And as if that was awaited, an explosion.

She was blown backwards with the impact as if her organs have turned.

In the situation where she lost her sense of direction, even so, Anna barely didn't let go of her sword.

And the ground---to the direction where she thinks it was---she stabs using her blade, and somehow stopped.

When she puts down her feet, that was the edge of the ring.

She was almost out.

I had a cold sweat being saved barely.

But, it looks like it's hard to say that I was saved.

A warm thing comes up from the back of my mouth.

I crouched to the ground, and spew blood.

"As expected of Anna-san. I have thought that you would be out of the ring with that right now, but you are really strong. What do you think? Would you want to continue?"

Charlotte who had not moved a step from the start of the match overwhelms Anna.

I knew already the difference with our skills at this point.

But, my limbs still move.

The victor is not called until the bout is finished.

"...one question. You were flying when you came to the arena. So why are you not flying during the match? Are you looking down on me?"

"Yes. I am. Since I can win even if I do not fly right"

I was told with surprising honesty.

She probably has the qualification to look down at me. She has that much skill.

If use that confidence of her, then maybe.

"Ahh, but, please do not let this match last longer. Since I need to fight against Laurasan. I will strengthen the attacks a little bit from now on. Would Anna-san still not

break the will to continue even so? If you say that you would want to continue, then I will be your opponent for just another few seconds"

Charlotte smiled.

It was not a ridiculing smile, but rather a sweet smile of mercy.

And she sang.

She chanted as if to sing.

"Thy lightning spirits. I will sacrifice my magic powers. Manifest before the contract--

Bachi, there was that snapping sound, and a bluish-white light ran on the top of the ring.

The lightning was extending from Charlotte's body.

It shone blindingly, created a human form in the air on top of the arena, and looks down at me.

It's a lightning spirit.

A commotion rises from the audience seats.

There should be people within the ones who came outside the school who are petrified in fear for sure.

After all, it is huge.

It was huge enough to cover all of the arena.

Compared to the one that Laura summoned during her fight with Emilia before, it might be larger.

"Can I hear your reply?"

Charlotte asked while tilting her head as if it was the final notice.

"...I surrender"

My opponent was concerned about me.

Being confronted with that fact, my heart got broken.

It was not even a fight from the start.

In this half month, what in the world did Charlotte do.

It should not be within the range of a kind thing called trainings or practices.

"There is nothing strange about at all, Anna-san"

Charlotte started to speak as if she had seen through my heart.

"This Charlotte Gazard, compared to you and the rest, the definition of 'doing my best' is only different. I did my best for half a month. That is right, I had done my best. I did not do anything other than that. That is all of it"

CHAPTER 32

THE FINAL FIGHT DESU

It is, the final fight.

Normally the tensions of the audience would've reached their peak, and the arena should've been covered by cheers.

But Charlotte's semi-finals was too tremendous, that the surroundings got silent.

So much that your ears would get painful.

Within that arena, only two footsteps were echoing.

It was Laura and Charlotte's footsteps.

The two stood up at the center of the ring, and stared at each other.

"For the meantime, Charlotte-san. Congratulations on winning the semi-finals"

"Thank you very much. I can finally fight with Laura-san with this"

"Yes. But really, Charlotte-san is amazing. Coming here without having any injuries. It's an overwhelming strength. And the way you broke Anna-san's heart was also great. You decided the match in an instant after all"

"Off-board tactics is also needed to win after all. But, Laura-san. I will not do a psychological fight with you. I do not think that it has any meaning. I want to fight head-on with Laura-san. Have you learned how to fly?

"Yes. I can do it somehow"

Whispering that, Laura's body floated just a little bit.

When she used the flight magic the last time she didn't know how to hold back, and her head hit the ceiling.

But with that failure, and using the way Charlotte flew as a sample, she made some adjustments.

"That is great. Well then, let us start. Let us fight with our strengths"

Charlotte seemed like she couldn't wait.

'What an insatiable person for winning', Charlotte thought.

She would launch a surprise attack on weaker opponents, and she would even do a psychological fight. It was to win as fast as she can.

But when fighting against a stronger one, she would make the opponent excel all its powers then fight.

It was the opposite idea to the theory.

But winning for Charlotte is probably like that.

To not cloud the purity of her long-awaited victory, Charlotte purposely used flight magic in front of Laura.

Charlotte wanted to win against 'that' Laura.

"Ne~, Charlotte-san. I've been thinking of you as a friend. It was very fun sleeping together every night. But, Charlotte-san, what were you thinking being together with me?"

Before fighting, I wanted to know that at least.

And then, Charlotte, she blinked as if it was unexpected for her from the bottom of her heart, and 'Well, of course', she smiled.

"Laura-san is a very important friend. I like you very much. And at the same time, a rival to defeat. Is there a contradiction there"

"Is that so... thank goodness. Charlotte-san had gotten too much strong, that I, thought that I was being disliked"

Really.

Charlotte got strong. So much that Laura had feared her.

The effort that fills up the aptitude that was almost a hundred times, is not something that someone would do.

But.

Charlotte's voice was very calm.

And does not show any slight gaps at the same time.

She purely wants to win, I finally understood.

"The time when I would hate Laura-san, that is"

At the time when I hold back. At the time when I lost purposely.

"I know that. I am also a child of an adventurer. I will not hold back. I will not let Charlotte-san's half month to a waste. I will crush you with full force. I am the one who will absolutely win"

"No, I am the one who will win!"

The instructor in charge, has forgotten the sign of the start of the match.

And both Laura and Charlotte didn't mind something like that.

It would start with the two's will.

"Let us now"

"Gracefully"

""---Fight---""



Small jabs at first.

Arrow of light that is released from concentrating magic powers to the palm.

Both of them using the same technique, collides---.

In an instance, the arena ring that had sucked the blood and sweat of the students for half a century, had completely disappeared in this world.

There is no pathetic ending like a ring out in this fight.

The earth had lifted up, and the ring's fragments flew and scattered, and hits and reflects from the defense barrier that was protecting the audience.

At this point, there were numerous audiences that had started to run away from the arena.

But of course, both Laura and Charlotte did not care about that.

They could only see their opponent in the first place.

Flames, Water, Lightning, Wind and Light.

As declared, they hit each other and defended.

Laura wasn't holding back her magic powers.

Even so, Charlotte was standing on her two feet.

I am grateful for that.

In the first time after entering the school, I have met an 'enemy'. Thank you. Thank you for training up to this.

I am utmost delighted with that fighting spirit.

Everything was a learning to defeat me.

I am very grateful for the luck that there was a rival called Charlotte Gazard in the same school year.

(I like you very much. You are really the best)

That is why, with all that I have. I will completely defeat you with no mercy.

Charlotte is wishing for that.

Her goal is to defeat Laura with her full strength in a head-on fight.

"All of my powers---meaning, I will also use the sword. You do not mind right?"

"Yes, of course! Let me see everything of Laura-san!"

I drew the sword and strengthened its blade.

Strengthened, strengthened, strengthened it thoroughly,

Strengthening it to the point that I had confidence that it can even win against the legendary super metal Orichalcon, and swung it towards Charlotte.

Needed not to be said, Laura's movements are in the speed of sound. The tip of her blade was much faster.

The shockwave created from it can easily kill tens of people.

Charlotte blocks that slash with the palm of her hand.

"Are you thinking that something like this, would reach me?"

Charlotte created a high temperature with her magic powers, and melted Laura's sword.

I'm surprised. I didn't think that the strengthened sword would be destroyed.

But I was expecting that the slash would be blocked.

That's why it is the next attack.

Summoning a giant lightning spirit in the skies on the top of the arena.

Command to crush Charlotte together with myself.

"You did that huh---then!"

The ground had raised.

The earth and fragments of the ring were mixed and became a giant.

Charlotte made a huge statue on the arena grounds, and possessed it with an earth

spirit.

The earth spirit swung its giant hand upwards.

Its aim is the lightning spirit of course.

The earth had completed its role, and protected Charlotte from the lightning attack.

But it was exposed to ultra-high heat, and one part of the earth had vitrified.

And just like that, the two spirits fiercely fought, the lightning scatters in the air, and the earth became glass and broke down.

And even while the spirits were fighting, Laura and Charlotte were continuously hitting with their magic powers.

"With only a half month, what did you do to become that strong. Please teach me for future reference"

"I told you, I only did my best"

"You only 'did your best'... and what about sleep?"

"I did not"

"What about eating?"

"Once before secluding in the mountain, and once before I came here"

She's crazy.

It's completely not something a human would do.

"To reach Laura-san... to reach the aptitude number 9999 is like that. Was I able to reached you yet? Was able to stand beside you? Was I able to move forward? I still do not know Laura-san. Seriously, please bring out all your serious!"

"I'm really doing it seriously, Charlotte-san. However, that's right. If I'm with you, I feel that I can still go higher. Not a narrow place like this... --- first, let's fly!"

The stage leaves the arena to the royal capital's sky.

It was already not something that can be called as an event of the Gyrdorea Adventurer School anymore.

It is the final fight.

Because they were friends.

To have fun.

Seriously.

Without caring about anyone.

Up to the sky.

To the world of their own---.

CHAPTER 33

Conclusion

"It should be canceled without discussion"

The ring that already disappeared. The audience and students that had run away.

The two who were fighting that flew.

The tournament within the school does not form its shape.

That is why the instructors that have gathered in the ruins of the ring have decided unanimously as 'canceled'.

That only means, the instructors would crowd together to enter the final fight between Laura and Charlotte, and stop it forcefully.

That was the only thing they could do.

With only one or two instructors, they already cannot win against them.

(Not only by Laura-san, but I was also overtaken by Charlotte-san)

Emilia bit her lips looking up to the sky.

There ware consecutive countless explosions place she looked at.

The two girls collide with their magic powers, and makes the whole atmosphere of the royal capital tremble.

I even want to charge to the sky, and join them.

But I don't have that much strength.

I don't know what I should do to reach them.

More than this, I can't let the students get further---.

"Stop it, that's disgraceful"

A firm woman's voice flowed like the wind.

With only that, all of the instructors of the Gyrdorea Adventurer School fixed their posture.

The owner of the voice, was a woman with fluttering silvery-white hair.

The one who has the second name"Great Sage of Beauty", the strongest magician in history.

This school's headmaster.

It was Calrotte Gyrdorea herself.

"The cute students did their best to become strong, the instructors will hinder that when they are showing it very well? Why? I wonder where the school's philosophy to extend the young one's talents go?"

"But School Head! If this continues, the royal capital itself!"

Emilia protests.

It was a very natural argument.

Rather, she couldn't understand what the Great Sage was talking about.

The instructors closed in towards the school head.

It was that time.

All of their faces other than the Great Sage, not nervous, but fear ran through.

Their feet wouldn't move.

Even if they used muscle strengthening magic at full force, it wouldn't even flinch.

"I have sealed your movements. Do you not even notice? That's pathetic. It is the summer vacation after the tournament within the school. All of the instructors, do you want me to train you again from the start?"

Receive the teachings from the Great Sage.

That is a fortune that they would really want, but that is not the problem right now.

"School head... please. If this really continues, there will be casualties in the royal capital"

"I have enveloped the royal capital with my barrier. I will not let one glass be broken even if it was an attack from the Demon God"

"Even so, the two might not be safe!"

"If above from the neck remains, I will regenerate them. Now, there are no questions anymore right?"

There is no end for questions.

Something like, is it okay to let students have a death fight rather than a match.

Something like, what is needed to say to the Queen Her Majesty having such noise.

Something like, the faces of the instructors would not be saved.

(Faces...? Wait, what the heck is that)

Emilia was stunned by her own thoughts.

"You guys are. Only jealous of the two fighting in the air. You already can't stand still right? But, it's nice for you. That you can be jealous. I am relieved, that there are no cowards within you guys that would look away from the 'strong' as if they were in a different world than you. You guys, you can still get stronger you know, congratulations"

And the Great Sage declared towards the sky.

"Laura-chan, Charlotte-chan. Don't mind the casualties in the royal capital. The injuries also, if your head remains it would be alright. I will do something for everything. That's why, do it with all that you have. In the name of the Great Sage Calrotte Gyrdorea, I will recognize your final fight"

There were already no one who says their opinion to the Great Sage.



Laura is flying evenly matched with Charlotte.

How terrible talent it was.

In my case, it took me four days to even let my body float.

Today, she completed the flight magic just by looking, and gets better and better.

She already started to have more complicated moves than Charlotte.

A long fight is disadvantageous.

If I do not hurry, I will stop being able to see Laura's back again.

But, how should I finish the match?

Right now, Charlotte was somehow able to match her, but the difference between them gradually closes.

Compared to Laura perfectly blocking her side's attacks, Charlotte's defense barrier has subtle holes that are slowly getting torn.

She was not receiving lethal injuries, but her uniform and skin were in tatters.

If only there was only a chance that I can somehow stop Laura's movements for an instant, and be able to summon 'that'.

It is because I cannot make that one instant that I am losing.

Even though I did that much, have I not reached her after all.

For a half month, Charlotte entered the Gate of Abyss.

That is the space where spirit beasts horde. It is a hell that was created by the House

of Gazard's ancestors.

Inside there, Charlotte was hit, stepped on, burned, ate, crushed, melted, and she was forcefully recovered every time, she was hurt without any sleep of break.

The spirit beasts used various techniques.

Stealing that with glances, defeat the spirit beasts instead.

It was a reckless training. The ancestor that thought about that probably had lost his sanity somewhere for sure.

Thanks to that, I had a hard time to get free from the encirclement of the spirit beasts.

Although, I was able to get stronger with that, so the ancestor was right.

The problem is that, I cannot win against Laura even though I got stronger.

Even while sinking to despair, Charlotte still exchanges attack magic with Laura with one ray of hope.

At that time, I heard a woman's voice.

She named herself as Great Sage Calrotte Gyrdorea, and she said that she would guarantee the safety of the royal capital and our life.

It was a very thankful thing.

But Charlotte, she didn't mind it until she was told.

Both the royal capital. And her own life.

She stopped to think, other than winning.

I can die tomorrow as long as I win today---.

"Can we stop it already, Charlotte-san"

Unexpectedly, the attacks stopped.

The fierce attacks that even covered all of the royal capital's skies, stopped as if it was fed up.

"Eh?"

'Can we stop it', did you just say that?

Why. Both of us still can move. I am even thinking of continuing until I die.

Does that mean that Charlotte was only that much for Laura.

There is no worth fighting. There is nothing that can be gained continuing. It is boring. Does she think of that.

"Holding back, let's stop it already"

But on the other hand, the words that Laura followed, was opposite to what I imagined.

"I know it, you know. You're aiming for a huge technique right? It is easy to show on Charlotte-san's face after all. It is very obvious. Let's stop the small jabs here, and do it for real. Thankfully, Great Sage-sama said that she would protect the royal capital"

Laura's movements have stopped.

She stood still in the air, and invites by opening her arms widely.

"If I have a huge technique... are you planning on receiving that, Laura-san"

"Yes. I will receive it without dodging. I, don't want Charlotte-san to lose half-heartedly. I don't want to leave regrets like 'I would've won if I used that technique', or 'I would've won if I fought better'. That's why, with no reserve, please. It's okay. I'm going to win after all"

In Laura's eyes that said that, there were no mercy or compassion.

There were only the colors of expectations.

The curiousness that quickly wants to know what Charlotte had gained in the past half month.

'That's idiotic', I got dumbfounded.

Even though it was in the middle of a fight, I could not help to let out a sigh.

I wonder who I got dumbfounded to. Is it to Laura, is it to myself.

Ahh, it is probably for the both.

"...I understand. This is my full force. Please receive it. I am the one who will win"

And she chanted.

The spell that calls the spirit beasts that sleep in the depth of the abyss.

"Thy beast who lives in the abyss. Thy the one who devours everything. I will sacrifice my magic powers, blood, and arm. That is why manifest. Run, run, hunt them all---"

A black magic circle spread in the air.

The thing that shows there is a black fur. Red-eyed wolf.

Its sharp fang pierced Charlotte's right shoulder.

It tore her flesh and skin, it finally reached the bones, and the wolf twisted her right arm.

"---!!"

It was, painful after all. Tears fell.

But the black wolf ate Charlotte's arm very deliciously.

That is why the contract was established.

Getting relieved to that, I commanded once again.

"Now, go!"

The wolf's whole body came out of the magic circle.

That which was larger than horses and elephants, its four limbs leaps in the air, and charged at Laura while having Charlotte's blood fall from its jaws.

With every step, the space itself trembles.

What holds him is bottomless appetite.

The stronger the target's magic powers, the more it is delicious.

To satisfy that insatiable hunger, the soon that he saw a strong magician, he devours them.

Looking at the wolf that runs to eat her, Laura strengthened the defense barrier that covered her whole body.

And at the same time, she got ready for a counterattack.

She creates flame bullets, ice spears, and lightning swords. Ten of each.

It struck the wolf at once.

The explosion enveloped Laura and the wolf. Discharge phenomenon emerged everywhere, and it was like the end of the world.

If the Great Sage wasn't protecting the royal capital, there might have been hundreds dead.

And before the flames of explosion dissipates, Laura's chants could be heard.

"Brute that lives in the well. I will give you permission to run"

The flames and smoke got clear with a gust of wind.

It was a wolf that created that wind.

But, it is not the one that Charlotte summoned. That already died.

In the first place, it is only one that Charlotte called.

And right now, there are three of them in front of her.

Once again, Laura learned it just by seeing.

The wolf that is the spirit beast of the House of Gazard, the technique of summoning from the Gate of Abyss. She acquired it with that instant.

The three wolves charged at Charlotte.

She didn't have enough magic powers left to block that.

At the point when she had summoned one wolf, Charlotte was like a squeezed cloth.

That is why in the consciousness that slowly fades, she remembered what Emilia had told her

The technique used will be copied in the instance it was used.

Aiming her should be one hit ko.

It you fail, it would return in multiple times.

Ahh, it was really like that.

It was something that I knew.

But I could not do anything about it.

I might have won if I used that technique.

I might have won if I fought better.

There was no regret like that, it was a complete defeat.

But, next time, for sure, I will win---.

CHAPTER 34

LET'S DO IT AGAIN SOMEDAY

Charlotte was blown to the grasslands that spread outside of the royal capital with the wolves' three consecutive tackles.

- Most probably, she already has no consciousness.
- She had hold back to be sure, and the Great Sage said that it's okay as long as above the neck remains.
- But, Laura chased after Charlotte without caring about that logic.
- There's already a conclusion. I have to save her quickly.
- Even Laura can use recovery magic for a little.
- Even if it's impossible to regenerate her torn arm, she could at least stop the blood.

"Charlotte-san!"

She was lying on the grasslands.

- Not to mention her right arm that was eaten by the wolf, her other limbs were bent into weird directions.
- Her uniform was in pieces, and it's already lost its function as clothes.
- The wounds on her skin were countless.
- And also, her appearance was not only a mess, but somehow... she looked like she became smaller.
- Of course, she lost one of her arms, so it's natural that she had gotten smaller physically.
- But what Laura felt, was not something with the appearance, but something outside of the five senses.
- Charlotte's magic powers, were clearly getting smaller.
- It doesn't have the impression that it decreased because it was used. The absolute amount itself was getting shredded.

(Something happened to Charlotte's spirit body while we were fighting...?)

Laura was about to go to a deep thought, but she shook her head because it wasn't the time for that.

"Thy wounded body, regenerate with my magic powers---"

First, heal the wounds in the surface to stop the blood.

But her broken bones, and her right arm were still as it is.

What should I do?

It's possible to forcefully heal her, but will her bones stick together quickly?

If I close the wounds without letting her arm grow, would it be more troublesome later?

"What should I do... what should I do..."

Even if her magic powers and talents were tremendous, her experiences are overwhelmingly insufficient.

That's why, Laura didn't know what to do, and could only panic in front of the sleeping Charlotte.

"I know! If I bring her to the royal capital, Great Sage-sama will heal her!"

While getting frustrated that she wasn't able to think of that at first, Laura tried to carry Charlotte.

But, someone patted her shoulder softly.

"It's okay. There's no need for that"

Getting surprised and looking back, silvery-white hair was fluttering.

"Ah... the teacher from the infirmary...!"

"You remembered me? Thanks. And so, Charlotte-chan's condition is pretty bad, I'll heal her first okay"

The teacher whose name is unknown, reaches out her hand towards Charlotte.

In that moment, Charlotte's limbs that were bent became straight.

And furthermore, flesh overflows from the base of her shoulder, and she grew a new arm in an instant.

It was really in a blink of an eye

Even with Laura's eyes, there were a lot that she didn't know how to copy.

Especially the technique that grew an arm, she even wanted let her do it once again.

"U-n... this is... ara, Laura-san?"

"Charlotte-san! You woke up, thank goodness"

"I, should've lost my right hand... and my magic powers have returned to normal. Entering the Gate of Abyss, and fighting Laura-san, everything's a dream...?"

Charlotte raised her body, and looked at her right hand intently.

"No. It isn't a dream. I regenerated it. It's new so your skin is very youthful right. Although, if it's your age, it's youthful from the start huh"

The silver-haired teacher crouched, and smiled at Charlotte.

"My arm, you did...? No way, a magician who can do that, it is only..."

Charlotte's voice trembled while a sweat fell from her cheeks.

And she stared at the teacher's silvery-white hair, and held her breath.

But Laura didn't know what it was about.

It's true that this teacher's recovery magic is in a different dimension, and her magic

powers itself is outrageous.

Even so, it's the school that the Great Sage herself is the head, so this level of instructors isn't strange---.

"I have yet to introduce myself huh. I am Calrotte Gyrdorea. There's also people call me exaggerating names like Great Sage of Beauty. Also, I'm the head of the school that you're going to. I'm always skipping though.

Great Sage---she named herself that. And at the same time, she released waves of magic powers from her body.

The small birds in the surroundings flew at once.

Laura could feel the vibrations on the bottom of her stomach.

(What, this person. She's really strong... to catch up with her, how many years would it take?!)

"He~. Both of you two, you're having a face thinking how long it would take to catch up huh"

The Great Sage laughed happily.

And she patted Laura and Charlotte's head.

"That's great, you should be that cheeky while you're young. I've been waiting for students like you to come. And to think that two would come at the same time. Fufu, I'm looking forward to it"

The Great Sage that should've lived for about 300 years, her smile was as young as she looked, and was mischievous.

Even so, when it comes to her magic powers, it was the image of the name Great Sage. Laura started to get more and more confused.

"By the way, Charlotte-san. You're wondering why your magic powers returned, but

that's natural. After all, you fight with the resolution that you can die tomorrow if you win today right? That's why you were able to endure an absurd place like the Gates of Abyss, and was able to exert that much powers today. But, it's only up to that. That's only a thin polish. Your spirit body that had exceeded its limits, as soon as the fight ended, it deflated as if a balloon lost its air"

"No way... then, are you saying that my efforts in the last half month were for nothing?!"

Charlotte's voice trembled. She gripped her hands as if she endures the pain of her heart.

"Well now, who knows. But you had great fun today right. Even if it's for a moment, you fought Laura-chan in the same dimension, flew to the sky, and even though on of your arms were devoured, it was still fun right? To the point that you didn't care about the pain"

"That is... yes"

Charlotte nodded to the Great Sage's words.

Thinking about it carefully, it was a ridiculous story. For a 14-year-old girl, enjoy a fight even though one of her arms got devoured.

But Laura, she didn't feel anything off about Charlotte is saying. Probably, she also wouldn't stop fighting even if she lost her arms or legs. That fight was that sweet.

"Then, it isn't for nothing right. The dimension that Charlotte-chan is aiming for, you were able to stand there even for an instant. If you continue doing your best properly every day without losing that feeling, in the near future, it would return. I will guarantee it. But, stop it with the Gate of Abyss. That is a kind of a ceremonial place made by the House of Gazard from a long time ago to fight me. Just like you today, with the resolution that they can die tomorrow as long as they win today, it's some kind of cheat facility that squeezes out magic powers more than the limits. If you enter again, you will really die this time"

"The House of Gazard from a long time ago, really fought with Great Sage-sama after all...?!"

Charlotte held her breath, and asked very excitingly.

"Yes. For at least a hundred years, they came to me quite frequently you know. Of course, I won every time though?"

The Great Sage proudly said.

It was like a child bragging about winning a fight.

Charlotte who saw that, let out something like a sigh of relief, and laid down to the grasslands once again.

"Is that so... for at least, the House of Gazard from a long time ago, as the legend says, they were full of spirits. I am happy to just hear that"

"Charlotte-chan has a very thick blood of the House of Gazard huh. If you want to fight me, you can come anytime. Well then, I'll return first okay. The two of you, it was a good match. Please rest slowly for the day"

The Great Sage stood up.

At that time, a dust entered Laura's eyes, and couldn't help but scratch her eyes.

And in the faint instant when her sight was covered.

Within that, the Great Sage's appearance disappeared.

"...she returned"

"Yes. As if it was a phantom dream"

"Should we return too?"

"No, please let me rest here just a little bit more"

Charlotte stretched her limbs on the top of the grasslands.

And while staring at the sky just like that, she whispered.

"Laura-san. Congratulations on becoming the champion It is my defeat. At least for today"

"Ah, I see. We, we were fighting in the school's tournament huh. I'm the champion... thank you very much"

"Oh, have you forgot? Well then, it would be as if we have fought without any particular reasons"

"T-That's true. It feels stupid with that"

They did a match under the cause of the tournament within the school.

It feels like it deviated a lot, but anyways, it's like that for sure.

It's not a normal fight for sure, and it is not a muscle head's reason like 'Let's be clear who's stronger'.

It is only an event of the school for sure.

"By the way, Laura-san"

"Yes?"

"Can I challenge once again?"

"Without any reasons?"

"Yes. Without any particular reasons"

Charlotte said with a serious face.

And there wasn't a reason for Laura to decline.

"It's alright. Please come whenever you're ready"

Laura also laid with her arms and legs stretched, and looked at the sky with Charlotte.

From her side, soft breathing sounds of a sleeping person could be heard.

She's probably tired. It can't be helped.

Laura was also very excited for today.

Her eyelids were heavy.

"...we should return quickly, everyone's, worried, I, think..."

Laura's consciousness faded there.



The instructors, they searched for the surroundings of the royal capital for Laura and Charlotte who wouldn't return at all.

Of course, Emilia also desperately searched.

It was after such a fight.

They probably had huge injuries for sure.

And, although she was that worried about them.

The Laura and Charlotte that she finally found, was taking an afternoon nap on the grasslands very happily.

Their sleeping faces were so cute, that Emilia didn't have the will to get angry.

CHAPTER 35

SKYFISH HUNT DESU

The tournament for the first year had ended, but the second year's and the third year's still remain.

But with Laura and Charlotte's fight, the ring has disappeared.

The matches can't be held like that.

So there, Laura called out to the earth spirits, and raised the ground to a ring shape.

Thanks to that, everything was able to continue as planned.

It looks like the Great Sage entered the palace herself, and explained to Her Majesty the Queen that 'the fight in the skies of the royal capital is a school event'.

It's unknown what kind of explanation she did, but the rumors said that it was close to intimidation.

Anyways, both Laura and Charlotte, doesn't need to be worried being charged with responsibility.

"It's the after class, Charlotte-san"

"I know even if you do not tell me. Why are you so excited for?"

"The class ends at the morning today!"

"That is why I told you, I know"

"So, let's go hunt monsters with everyone! Also invite Anna-san!"

"Hunt monsters... it would be nice if it would be a good training..."

And just like that, Laura pulled Charlotte, caught Anna in the Warrior Department after that, and ran towards the adventurer's guild.

They were scolded with the case with Leviathan last time because they were too reckless.

So this time, following the school rules, they will fight monsters below D-Rank.

"In the wall there, there's the distribution chart of monsters this week"

Anna explained to them.

"Oh∼, it's like weather forecast"

The weather forecast that the Royal Meteorological Observatory announces has high prediction rate.

After all, the magicians observe in a very wide area from the sky, and predicts it from the huge data from the past.

The reason that this country's agricultural products have a rich harvest every year, is largely due to the precision of the weather forecast.

"Very strong, large, and herding monsters as much as possible is great. Well, it is all the same below D-Rank though"

"I recommend one-horned rabbit. I had said it before, but it's easy to defeat but sells expensively"

"I do not like that monster that really feels like it is for beginners!"

"Selfish"

"It is a natural claim!"

While Charlotte and Anna is arguing, Laura was seriously looking at the distribution charts of monsters.

"Ah." What about Sky Fish? It's E-Rank so it's not a violation of school rules"

The thing called Sky Fish, they should've learned it in class.

It's a rod-like monster that has the length of about an adult male, and lives in the gaps of the boulders.

It is said that it mainly eats insects, and when it sees a prey, it jumps out of the boulder and devours it with supersonic speeds. And it just returns to the gaps of the boulders just like that.

Sky Fish itself doesn't fit for being eaten, but when it's placed inside a liquor bottle, it will become a very delicious 'Sky Fish Liquor'.

They say, that it's very refreshing that they would fly to the sky.

Although, Laura and the rest are children, so they wouldn't know anything about liquor.

"An E-Rank monster with this member?"

Charlotte made a blatant face that dislikes that.

"Sky Fish is very fast but it can't move over very long distances. So, it's easy to catch if a trap was made beside their nest. That's why it's E-Rank. But, if it's caught without using traps, its difficulty would raise at once. That's why, let's catch it with bare hands!"

"Sky Fish, with bare hands... Laura-san, that is a nice idea!"

Training maniac Charlotte also got satisfied.

Although, unexpectedly, Anna puts an objection.

"Wait. It's written that it's the Behemoth's nest beside the inhabitation of Sky Fish"

Behemoth is an A- monster. It's below dragons because it can't fly, but it's being said that its power was about equal.

"It we encounter it and defeated it, we'll get scolded again"

"It's okay. If it comes out, we just only need to run away"

"Will it go well with these members? Charlotte might defeat it carelessly"

"Carelessly you say, I will defeat it aggressively. It is self-defense if we meet it by chance. It would not be our fault"

Charlotte said with great confidence, but who knows if that's true.

What Laura thinks, they would get scolded going to the place where the Behemoth is

itself.

"Little missy's, are you worried about Behemoth? Then you should be relieved. After all, the [Crimson Shield] and [Hawkeye] had gone to subjugate it. Wouldn't it return as a corpse after a day or two? Hahaha"

An adventurer called out to them from behind.

If you say Crimson Shield and Hawkeye, they're a party that is known especially around the royal capital.

They're being admired as adventurers with achievements.

It's great proof that the adventurer that called out to Laura and the rest talk about it very proudly.

Although, just recently, the Crimson Shield, when they were about to get annihilated by the Leviathan, they were saved by a mysterious trio [PajaRangers], so their evaluations had fallen for a bit.

The PajaRangers' identity, it is being told that it's the Great Sage's apprentice, a new type of homunculus that the country made, and a girl student of Gyrdorea Adventurer School wore to hide their identity.

"Little missy's, looking at your uniform, you're students from the Gyrdorea Adventurer School right? I had a quest so I didn't see it, but they said that there're very strong freshmen in the tournament inside the school huh. Little missy's should also do your best to not lose to them. Hahaha"

The adventurer left while laughing.

"I see...we, our faces were seen by the people who came to the arena. That person seems like he didn't saw us... but it might be better if we wear paper bags when going to places that there are a lot of people"

While they were coming to the guild, she thought that there're strangely many people looking at them, but it was like that.

"Eh, why is that? Is it not splendid to attract attention"

Charlotte said while tilting her head.

It looks like she has no concept of getting embarrassed from gathering gazes.

"...well, people have different tastes. Anyways, let's go to the place where Sky Fish inhabits!"

Before leaving the royal capital, they bought three paper bags.

It's only, to be sure.

CHAPTER 36

SECRET SOCIETY

KAMIBUKURON (PAPER BAGRN) DESU

The habitat of the S	Sky Fish is a	rocky area.
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There, a small waterfall and a small river are flowing, the scenery is exquisite.

And in the gaps between the rocks, *PyunPyun*, something was flying past each other.

"That is the Sky Fish desu wa ne"

"Just like we learned in class, they're really fast~"

"But, it seems easy"

The Sky Fish flew faster than sound.

It's hard to see all of their movements even for experienced adventurers, but for the three, it was something like a game.

"Now, ei!!"

Laura reached out her hand and caught the shadow that flew.

She succeeded capturing it for the first time.

The creature that was like a snake having small feathers, *PichiPichi*, it was struggling, trying to escape from Laura's hand.

"Please calm down!"

Laura threw the Sky Fish that was struggling towards the rock.

The Sky Fish died!

"H-How cruel..."

"Laura has a docile face, but amazing from time to time"

Charlotte and Anna, their faces were twitching.

"Then what will you do then! Are you going to take it to the guild while it's alive?!"

"Even if you want to calm it down, you can just freeze it or something like giving it an electric shock. To think that you would throw it to the rocks... you lack femininity you know, Laura-san"

"I don't want to be told by Charlotte-san who sacrificed one of her arms to summon a spirit beast!"

"During the match is not counted!"

Charlotte claimed her own legitimacy with a mysterious logic.

Of course, Laura wouldn't be refuted by that.

"The two of you. Stop flirting around, let's catch Sky Fishes"

They regained themselves with those words of Anna, and seriously resumed Sky Fish hunting.

Laura and Anna catch Sky Fishes and kills them by throwing to the rocks.

Charlotte was killing them by frying them with electric magic, but it seems like it became a pain halfway, she started to kill them by throwing them to the rocks in the end.

"We even caught 50 of them huh"

"It seems difficult to bring them back desu wa"

"But, if there's this much, it would be plenty of money"

Looking at the Sky Fishes that piled up on top of the rocks, the three smiled contently, and wiped their sweat.

At that time, an explosive sound could be heard from the nearby forest.

At the same time, Laura sensed the activation of magic.

It looks like someone was fighting.

Most probably, it's the Behemoth and the adventurers.

"We should run away quickly, taking the Sky Fish"

"No. Behemoth is something that is rarely seen. We should return after at least taking a look"

"I know right! I also want to see Behemoth!"

Laura and Charlotte nodded at each other.

However, only Anna, "Ehh∼", didn't like it.

"I'm not monstrously strong like the two of you..."

"It's okay! I'll protect you if something happens. Let's go~!"

The three advanced through the forest.

They can tell easily the place that they should go to.

It was because fierce sounds of battle can be continuously heard.

"Ohh, they're fighting, they're fighting. Behemoth, it's amazing, it's stamping through trees"

Behemoth was a monster larger than a house.

Its silhouette was similar to a rhinoceros, but it has a more violent face.

"Compared to that, Crimson Shield and Hawkeye are disgraceful desu wa. Can they not kill it with their numbers?"

Hiding in the brush, Laura and the rest were watching the fight.

The two party has a total of 20 people.

They surround the Behemoth, attack it with magic and arrows, and challenge it with a melee after stopping its feet.

But the Behemoth's skin was thick, and their attacks couldn't go through decently.

"Damn it, this is stronger than a regular Behemoth! It's a variant!"

They were having a difficult fight.

When they were watching in suspense, one of the adventurers was blown off by the Behemoth's tail.

The magician used recovery magic to save that. Because of that, the firepower for support fell, and the Behemoth's movements become intense.

It was only a matter of time before the collapse of the Crimson Shield and Hawkeye.

"I cannot watch this! Laura-san, Anna-san. Let us join the fight!"

It's true, that if they don't do that, they will die.

But, they were scolded once with the Leviathan.

If they defeat the Behemoth while there are this much witnesses, horns might grow from Emilia's head.

'Shouldn't we just make them shut their mouths by any means after defeating the Behemoth', Laura had that thought for an instant.

But she imagined herself sewing the mouth of the witnesses with a thread, and started trembling from its frightfulness.

"It's pitiful making them shut their mouths \sim ... !"

"Haa~? Have you forgotten, Laura-san. Did you not buy a paper bag in the royal capital for times like these"

"Ah, that's right! We only need to transform with this right!"

There holes properly for their eyes in the paper bag that she bought.

With this, nothing should be found out, probably!

Laura and Charlotte merrily wore the paper bag, and forced Anna who didn't like it somehow to wear it.



"Transformation finished. Well then, right away... Spear of Ice!"

Laura gathered water from the air and the ground, froze it, creating a huge spear of ice.

And she launched it towards the Behemoth.

It hit its abdomen, piercing it deeply enough that it might jump out of the other side.

"GUOOOOOOOOOON!!!"

Behemoth raised a scream from the sudden pain.

Following secondly, Charlotte dropped lightning without holding back.

The lightning passed through the spear of ice, entering the Behemoth's insides. The surroundings were covered by the smell of meat being burned.

"Anna-san has the last hit. I will cast strengthening magic, so please do it!"

"I will hand you the highlight"

"It's okay not having the highlight you know..."

While complaining, Anna drew the sword she had on her back, and ran towards the Behemoth.

Laura and Charlotte activated the muscle strengthening magic at the same time.

Anna was strengthened to the limits, and cut off the Behemoth's head with one slash.

"Y-You girls, what in the world...?"

The adventurers looked at the three with faces not knowing what just happened.

"We are the passing by, [Paper Bagrn (Kamibukuron)] desu. We don't have something to do with Gyrdorea Adventurers School or PajaRangers at all! Well then, goodbye!!"

Because their disguise was perfect, there was a low chance of their identity getting

found out.

But in the world, there are times when things unlikely happen, so Laura and the rest quickly ran away.

"It feels good saving people right~"

"I am content fighting with the Behemoth"

"I, the Behemoth's head... as I've thought, strengthening magic is amazing"

The three returned to the dormitory with a refreshed mood.

And on the next day, they were terribly scolded by Emilia at the school.

"Even if you wear paper bags, if you're wearing uniforms it would be found out right!!!!!!!"

"Hi~n, sorr~y"

Laura, Anna, and Charlotte, the three of them stood in the corridor during the morning.

On top of that, they remembered around that time that they forgot to bring back the Sky Fishes that they caught.

It never rains, but it pours.

'I even wanted to buy a new sword with the money from selling the Sky Fish...', Laura silently shed tears.

CHAPTER 37

HOMECOMING FOR SUMMER VACATION DESU

"It's the summer vacation starting tomorrow huh~"

While eating lunch in the cafeteria, Laura spoke to Charlotte and Anna.

"That is right. Will Laura-san be going back to your family house?"

"U \sim n, what should I do. Rather than that, together with Charlotte-san and Anna-san, I want to go on a trip somewhere!"

"A trip huh... that is not bad"

"Wait. I don't have enough money to go to a trip"

Anna said while dripping sauce to her fried shrimp.

"Please do not worry. I will at least do something about the travel expenses"

"Ohh. As expected of the House of Gazard. And then, where will we go?"

"That is, of course, monster hunt using the long vacation. Hunt all the rare monsters that we cannot usually encounter, growing at once during the summer vacation---"

"Rejected"

Anna cut off Charlotte's suggestion immediately.

"W-Why?!"

"I also want to play a lot during the trip. Let's divide practice and play separately okay"

"...I understood. Well the, let us think seriously where we should go play"

"It's summer, I want to swim"

"That's good! I, I have experienced swimming in rivers and lakes, but I had never gone to the sea, so the sea is good!"

"Sea, huh... fufu. Well then, I will invite you to the House of Gazard's private beach desu wa!"

When they were making such joyful plans, Emilia came to the cafeteria.

She looked around turning her neck, and the instant she met eyes with Laura, she shouted.

"Laura-san, Laura-san! It's an emergency! Come to the principal's room immediately!"

Emilia ran, and pulled Laura's arm.

"W-What is it, Emilia-sensei. I haven't finished my omelettes. Please at least wait until I finish it"

"Then hurry up and eat it! It's an emergency you know!"

Because she was being prompted to hurry up so much, she couldn't taste her omelettes properly.

Is there something more important than omelettes in this world.

Laura couldn't imagine.

"Emilia-sensei. What are you hurrying for really? At least the lunch break, can you not let students use their time freely"

"Agree. We were making our summer vacation plan"

Charlotte and Anna raised voices of protest.

But, Emilia dismissed it saying"It's not time for summer vacation!"

"Not only summer, even autumn and winter, Laura-san might be having a vacation forever you know!"

"Eh, what is that. Is combined summer vacation and winter vacation a benefit for getting the championship"

"How carefree! If this goes on, Laura-san might be forced to quit school you know?!"

Quit.

With the impact of those words, Laura and the girls got quiet.

They couldn't understand what it meant.

"...e-e~to... what are you saying, Emilia-sensei. There's no way I would quit school right. On whose, authority"

"Laura-san's Otou-san"

The instant she heard the answer, *Zudo—n*, Laura fell down from her chair, and hit her ass.

"D-Don't tell me, that I entered the magic department..."

"...it looks like it was found out. And he was clearly pissed off in his letter"

Laura heard a sound as if her blood drew.

Right now, I am sure that I had become blue.

What should. What should I do.



The great sage who was waiting in the principal's room, she was making a very troubled face.

Even though when they met her in the infirmary, and even the time they met her in the grasslands after the final fight, she was full of composure.

'Even this person can make such a face', Laura was impressed.

And the letter that is making even the great sage troubled, it was sent by Father.

"Laura-chan, welcome. Charlotte-chan and Anna-chan also came huh"

"I cannot pass by my friend's pinch!"

"I won't forgive withdrawal. Never, absolutely"

Even in front of the great sage, Charlotte and Anna were not frightened Following them, Emilia entered the principal's room.

The cast is complete with this.

"First, I will explain in order. Two letters came. One is from Laura-chan's Okaa-san. Meaning, from Dora Edmonds. It looks like Okaa-san, it seems like she had come to watch the tournament within the school"

"Hogee∼"

A strange scream fell out from Laura's mouth.

"It looks like Okaa-san was very moved. She didn't know that her own daughter had such talents for magic. New possibilities appeared thanks to coming to school. Please continue to extend our daughter's talents. That was written in the letter"

Hearing that, Laura let out a sigh of relief.

'What, it doesn't have such bad contents', she thought...

"She went back home, and when she taught Otou-san that Laura-chan entered the magic department, it looks like he got in rage. So much, that they had their first fight since they married, she said..."

"Hogyaaaa!!"

Laura collapsed while convulsing.

"Wha!... Laura-san, get a hold of yourself!"

"She's foaming..."

Thanks to the dedicated care of her two friends, Laura was somehow able to stand up. Even if she loses consciousness, the situation wouldn't get better.

I need to hear the continuation.

"And then, Great Sage-sama. The second letter is..."

"Not Great Sage, call me Principal-sensei. And the second one, it's from Otou-san without any say. The contents, it was abusive language against the school. Slanders against magicians. Disappointment against me. And Laura-chan's drop out request. You want to read it?"

"No... I can imagine it pretty much, so no thank you. Uhmm, sorry for Father..."

"It's okay. It's not like Laura-chan has done something wrong. It's famous that Bruno Edmonds hates magicians. I understand his feeling for being angry. And from even before he was still a student here, he was saying something like [Vanguard is nice you know]"

Come to think of it, Laura's father and mother was a graduate of this school.

Not mentioning Mother, Father who had hated magicians like they were serpents, I wonder why did he entered the Gyrdorea Adventurer's School where the Great Sage is the principal.

Laura though of it strangely, and said it to words And then.

"He said that there's a magician he wanted to defeat. Also, he said that he wanted to challenge me, who is the strongest magician to a one on one"

That answer returned.

I see. It's a motive very Father-like.

"And then, did Principal-sensei do a one on one against Father?"

"I did. On top of that, with the sword"

"...the result is?"

"Of course, I won"

The Great Sage grinned. She was very proud of it.

And Laura, "Mu∼", she groaned hearing that her father lost.

And then, the Great Sage got more and more delighted.

"Thanks to kicking his ass without using magic with the sword, he, it looks like he recognized me... but, because I transferred Laura-chan to the magic department, it looks like I brought out his anger. Tehe~"

Tehe∼, you said.

It was a matter of life and death for Laura.

She was able to have friends called Charlotte and Anna, she didn't want to stop after all.

"Can nothing be done?!"

"U~n... if Laura-chan was more than 15 years old, you are treated as an adult though. You who are 9, your life can be affected by the will of your guardians you know. Meaning, as long as Otou-san who is your guardian sent a drop out request, we can't do anything about it as a school"

"No way \sim . Didn't Principal-sensei threaten Her Majesty the Queen?!"

"I didn't threaten her you know, don't say such scandalous things. It's just, I just said sorry for getting so noisy with our event. All of the royals, we're friends after all. Well, Laura-chan's Otou-san might also be something like a friend though. It's because he's my student. Honestly, I had guessed this kind of turn of events, so I was ready for it. Well then, I should go at him directly, and intensely persuade---"

"Please stop, Otou-san will die!"

I would be troubled if my own father, and the principal of the school that I am going to had bloodshed.

And even how strong Father is, he's only an average person compared to the Great Sage.

Even now, Laura's parents are people she admires.

I don't want to see them lose.

"And so, Principal. What will you do with the drop out request? For me, I don't want to lose my lovely students such easily"

Emilia also joined the conversation.

"Let me think~. For the meantime, let's hide it in the drawer. Just because it had reached us, it's not something that needs to be processed immediately after all. The excuse that there was an accident with the mailman-san is valid?"

The Great Sage placed Bruno Edmond's letter into her own drawer.

It looks like she put it very far back inside.

Gusha, the sound of the paper getting crumpled could be heard.

"However, it is impossible to dodge it with that forever"

"That's right. And with that, Laura-chan. You should go back to your family house during the summer vacation, and persuade Otou-san. Even if it is talking with all of your heart, or violence with no mercy, I'll leave the way to you. If that wasn't enough, I will really go myself"

"...I understand!"

There is more than a month for the summer vacation.

There is a lot of time. And it looks like her mother is Laura's ally.

Then the chances are good.

As Great Sage has said, right now, it is possible for Laura to convince him with power.

It's a move she don't want to take, but the opponent is Bruno Edmonds. An adventurer within the adventurers.

It should be his long-cherished ambition to get his ass kicked by his own daughter who got strong.

"Laura-san. Please take me with you okay!"

"I'll also go with you. I'll do anything to make Laura stay in the school"

"Charlotte-san... Anna-san... thank you very much!"



Laura was moved.

After all, what one needs to have is a best friend.

The precious time called the summer vacation, they give it away for Laura with no hesitation.

For that, I couldn't be thankful enough.

"Thanks are unneeded. We should help each other in times of need"

"Right. That's why when I got in trouble, take care of me"

"...yes!"

With this, the three went on a journey towards Laura's hometown.

With other meanings, this might also be called as a trip for their summer vacation.



